

ALL PRO 1966

FOOTBALL

INSIDE EXCLUSIVES:

John Brodie
writes on
Dave Parks

•
Mac Speedie
writes on
Lionel Taylor

BONUS:

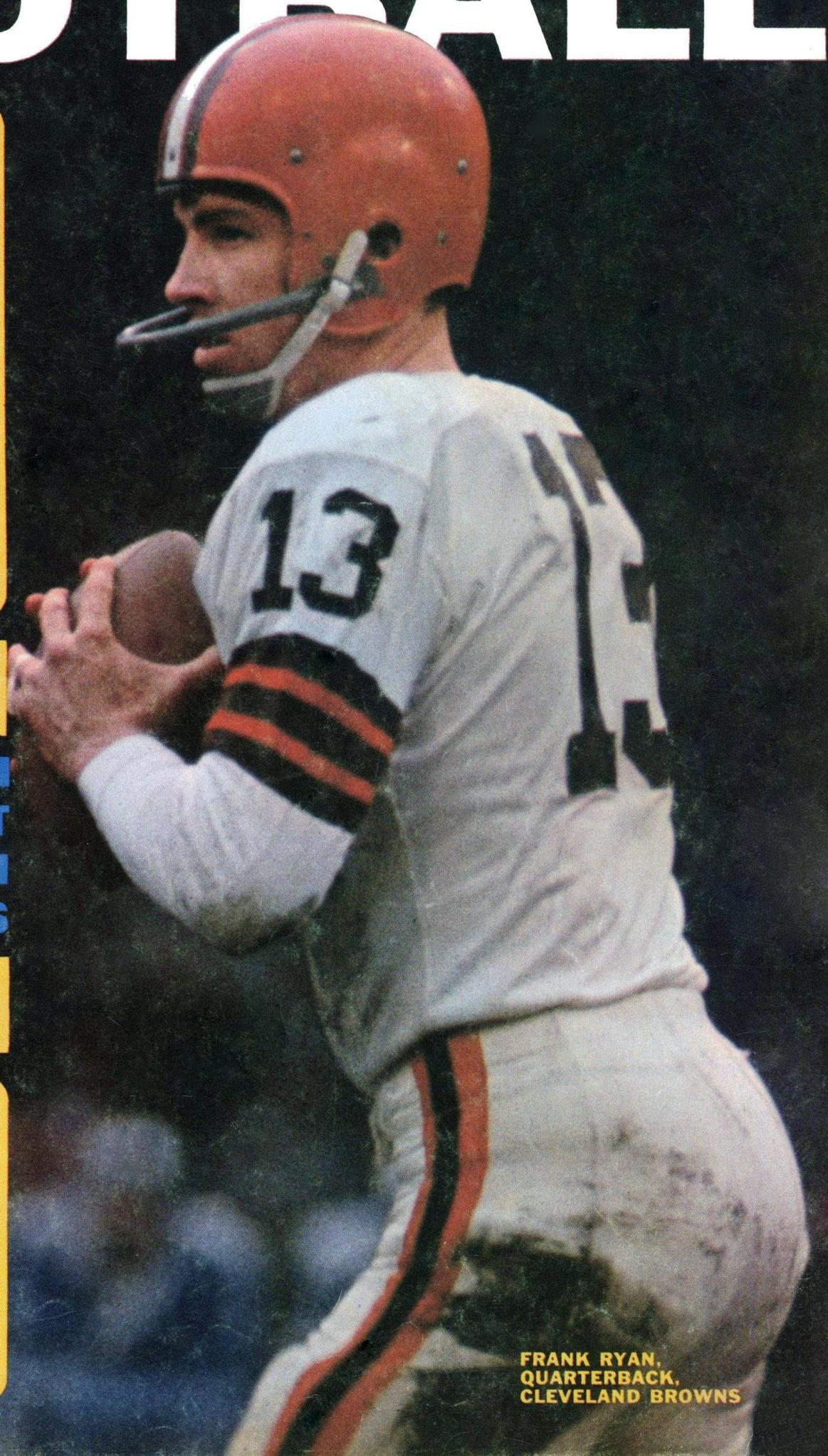
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COMMENTARY ON
NFL, AFL TEAMS**

PLUS

**NFL, AFL, CFL
Schedules**

- Statistics •
- Authoritative Predictions •

Special Features: The Big Leagues Make Peace, Canadian Pro Ball



**FRANK RYAN,
QUARTERBACK,
CLEVELAND BROWNS**

1966 NFL SCHEDULE

FIRST WEEK

Saturday, September 10
Baltimore vs. Green Bay at Milwaukee*

Sunday, September 11
Chicago at Detroit
Cleveland at Washington
Los Angeles at Atlanta
Minnesota at San Francisco
New York at Pittsburgh
Philadelphia at St. Louis

SECOND WEEK

Friday, September 16
Chicago at Los Angeles*

Sunday, September 18
Atlanta at Philadelphia
Baltimore at Minnesota
Detroit at Pittsburgh
Green Bay at Cleveland
New York at Dallas
Washington at St. Louis

THIRD WEEK

Sunday, September 25
Atlanta at Detroit
Los Angeles at Green Bay
Minnesota at Dallas
New York at Philadelphia
St. Louis at Cleveland
San Francisco at Baltimore
Washington at Pittsburgh

FOURTH WEEK

Friday, September 30
San Francisco at Los Angeles*

Sunday, October 2
Chicago at Minnesota
Cleveland at New York
Dallas at Atlanta
Detroit at Green Bay
Pittsburgh at Washington
St. Louis at Philadelphia

FIFTH WEEK

Saturday, October 8
Pittsburgh at Cleveland*

Sunday, October 9
Atlanta at Washington
Baltimore at Chicago
Green Bay at San Francisco
Los Angeles at Detroit
New York at St. Louis
Philadelphia at Dallas

SIXTH WEEK

Sunday, October 16
Dallas at St. Louis
Detroit at Baltimore
Green Bay at Chicago
Los Angeles at Minnesota
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh
San Francisco at Atlanta
Washington at New York

SEVENTH WEEK

Sunday, October 23
Atlanta vs. Green Bay at Milwaukee
Dallas at Cleveland
Detroit at San Francisco
Los Angeles at Chicago
Minnesota at Baltimore
Philadelphia at New York
St. Louis at Washington

EIGHTH WEEK

Sunday, October 30
Baltimore at Los Angeles
Cleveland at Atlanta
Green Bay at Detroit
Pittsburgh at Dallas
San Francisco at Minnesota
Washington at Philadelphia
Monday, October 31
Chicago at St. Louis*

NINTH WEEK

Sunday, November 6
Cleveland at Pittsburgh
Dallas at Philadelphia
Detroit at Chicago
Los Angeles at San Francisco
Minnesota at Green Bay
St. Louis at New York
Washington at Baltimore

TENTH WEEK

Sunday, November 13
Baltimore at Atlanta
Dallas at Washington
Detroit at Minnesota
New York at Los Angeles
Philadelphia at Cleveland
St. Louis at Pittsburgh
San Francisco at Chicago

ELEVENTH WEEK

Sunday, November 20
Atlanta at New York
Baltimore at Detroit
Chicago at Green Bay
Dallas at Pittsburgh
Minnesota at Los Angeles
Philadelphia at San Francisco
Washington at Cleveland

TWELFTH WEEK

Thursday, November 24 (Thanksgiving Day)
San Francisco at Detroit
Cleveland at Dallas
Sunday, November 27
Atlanta at Chicago
Green Bay at Minnesota
Los Angeles at Baltimore
New York at Washington
Pittsburgh at St. Louis

THIRTEENTH WEEK

Sunday, December 4
Atlanta at Minnesota
Chicago at Baltimore
Detroit at Los Angeles
New York at Cleveland
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia
St. Louis at Dallas
San Francisco vs. Green Bay at Milwaukee

FOURTEENTH WEEK

Saturday, December 10
Green Bay at Baltimore
Sunday, December 11
Chicago at San Francisco
Cleveland at Philadelphia
Minnesota at Detroit
Pittsburgh at New York
St. Louis at Atlanta
Washington at Dallas

FIFTEENTH WEEK

Saturday, December 17
Cleveland at St. Louis
Sunday, December 18
Baltimore at San Francisco
Dallas at New York
Green Bay at Los Angeles
Minnesota at Chicago
Philadelphia at Washington
Pittsburgh at Atlanta

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Sunday, January 1, 1967, at home of Eastern Conference champion

PLAYOFF BOWL

Sunday, January 8, 1967, at Miami, Florida

*Night game



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Edited by Harold Rosenthal

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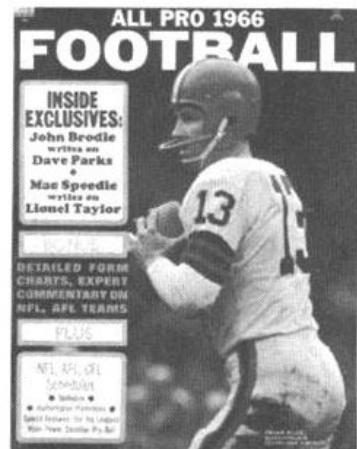
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Frank Ryan, quarterback for the Cleveland Browns, has a chance to lead his team to its third straight Eastern Conference title and—if the club gets past its Western opponent—he'll get to play the AFL titleholder for the world championship.

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"THE COACH WANTS TO SEE YOU —AND BRING YOUR PLAYBOOK"

Apart from that slice of dialog that begins with, "I'm sorry, but our plans for this year don't include you," what is the most devastating feeling a pro football player can experience? Is it a neck tackle by Ray Nitschke, a stiff-arm by Jimmy Brown, or a ball slipping through icy fingers in the end zone with seconds to play? All these, and others, are eclipsed by the sinking sensation that comes with the inner cry, "My gosh, what did I do with my playbook?"

You can recover from the bruises inflicted by the toughest of

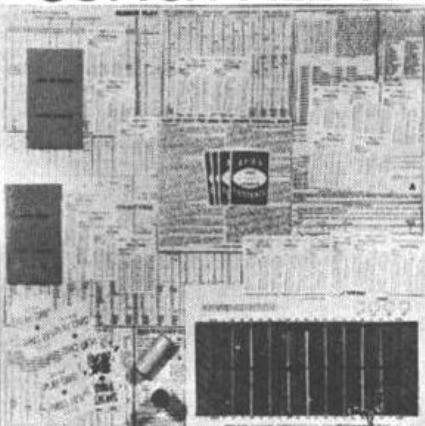
opponents. All players must have "X" number of miscues to go along with the big plays that stud their careers. But losing a playbook costs \$500, and the fine is non-returnable. No one knows why it isn't \$250 or \$1,000, just as no one knows who really stabilized the stay-out-after-11 p.m. fine at \$50.

Football playbooks are purely a pro innovation. Rookies just out of college constantly marvel at the meticulous detail in the books they receive their first day in camp. With the books comes a don't-lose-it-or-else

warning. Players are advised to check them in the valuables locker before practice or a game, along with their class rings and other jewelry and cash. And they're reminded to pick them up on time, too, and have them available at all meetings. The fine for not having the book when needed is \$25 or \$50, depending on the club.

The pro playbook goes back to the early '40s. Allie Sherman, a left-handed quarterback with the Philadelphia Eagles, remembers getting one that, in comparison to the ones he now deals out to his New York

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Defensively, too, every player is just as realistic. You'll miss a great linebacker like Alex Karras when he's injured, just as much as the real-life Lions do!

You'll thrill to find John Brodie throwing more touchdown passes than any other quarterback. Gary Collins will top your league in punting and Michaels, Cox, Bakken, and all the other place kickers will give you typical results on the long tries as well as the short ones.

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... BRING YOUR PLAYBOOK" / continued

Giants, resembled a kind of pamphlet.

And just what is in a present-day playbook? Says Sherman: "Our book has basic sections, with specialized sections for particular players. Up front we go in for terminology, nomenclature, our play numbering; elementary stuff for the veterans, but it doesn't hurt to have them re-learn it, either. We want to have every one able to communicate.

"Every club describes something a little differently. Our 'Sam Wanda' means the middle linebacker is red-dogging between the tackle and end on the tight end side, while the weakside linebacker is doing the same from his side and coming through the right end. Other clubs probably have some different name for it."

A playbook is pretty much the same in every organization. Basically, it is a three-ring binder with a good leather cover to stand up to a season of scuffing and an occasional set of teethmarks. Clubs are superstitious; they never use the same binder two years in a row, but they don't change color, either, after good seasons or bad.

Every book is numbered and checked out, and one coach is charged with riding herd on the library. You sign for it the first time the way some naval officer signs for a destroyer. Unlike the Navy, there can be no excuse for losing one.

Books are graded periodically. Sherman's theory is that a playbook's condition is indicative of the man. "All your good ball players are pretty systematic and neat." Last year Allie had a rookie defensive back who kept turning up at offensive meetings. When he was finally sent away, Sherman took the playbook and burned it.

A playbook is a player's as long as he is a member of the team. A rookie lives in dread of the order, "The coach wants to see you, and

be sure to bring your playbook."

Ball clubs take no chances about a just-cut rookie destroying a book in a moment of flaming fury, or worse, getting some silly idea about passing it on to some other club. Actually, this "Spy Who Came In From The End Zone" move would be of little value to the club into whose hands it might happen to fall. While playbooks are the guts of the ball club, and picking up another club's audibles (the signals called at the line of scrimmage to change a play) might provide a certain advantage, there'd be practically nothing of value in broad strategy. Intensive filmwork, now standard practice on all two-dozen big-league clubs, has made all else practically obsolete.

Says Buster Ramsey, who coached in both leagues: "You can pick up almost anyone's plays without a book. With films today, no one can be original for more than a week."

The New York Titans, predecessors of the Jets in the American League, were unique for three years in that they never had a playbook under coaches Sammy Baugh and Bulldog Turner, who succeeded Sammy after two years. Yet Baugh's clubs played 7-7 seasons, and none of the subsequent Jet clubs, despite reams of paperwork, were ever able to achieve .500.

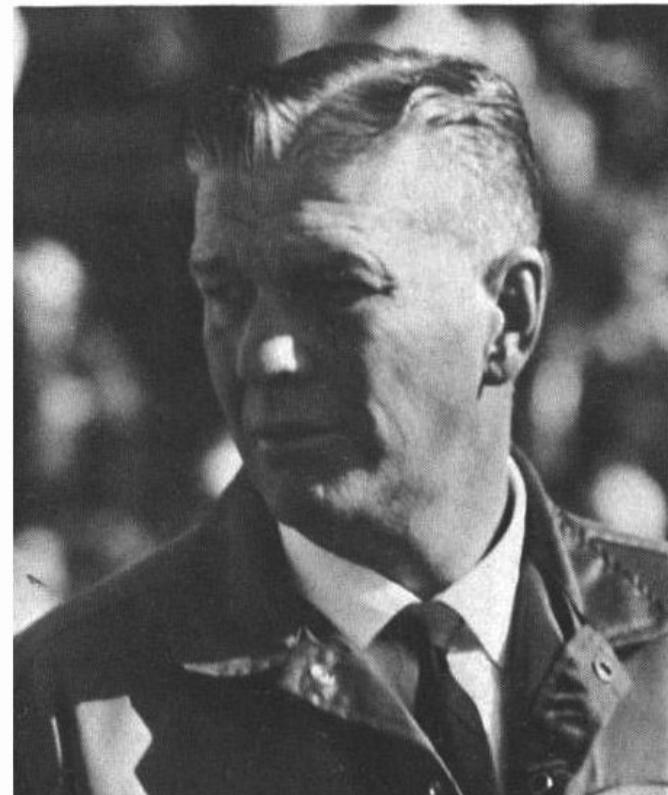
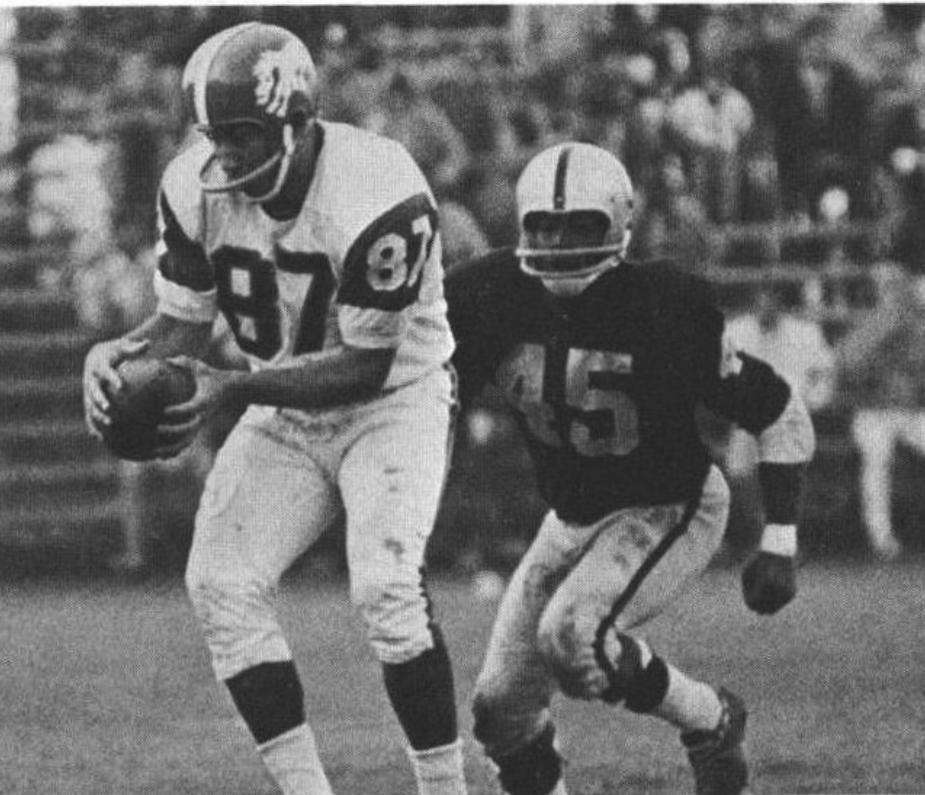
Baugh got off one of the great lines in pro ball in connection with his no-playbook approach. It came to the attention of the Titans' mercurial owner, Harry Wismer, that the club had no playbooks. This was in the second season, after the ownership had made no effort to sign any of their draft choices, men such as Tom Matte, Herb Adderley, Bill Brown, Bernie Casey and Mike Pyle. Wismer sought out Baugh and demanded, "Why don't we have playbooks?"

Sammy looked him up and down and replied, "Because we ain't got any paper, that's why." □

TAYLOR TOPS 'EM ALL

BY MAC SPEEDIE
Denver Broncos' Head Coach

There are bigger, faster and younger pass receivers in the American Football League than Denver's Lionel Taylor, but the great Bronco veteran has all the moves it takes to get into the open, plus the surest pair of hands in pro ball



The measure of a great pass grabber is his ability to latch onto a ball, using just his hands. With Oakland's Dave Grayson lurking close behind, Taylor had no time to cradle this one in his arms. Coach Speedie, right, a former great receiver himself, is Lionel's biggest fan

Because the Broncos have been an AFL weak sister since 1960, the Denver coaching staff has had to fill many lineup holes—but they've never had any problem at the split end slot. That's where Lionel Taylor is ensconced, and head man Mac Speedie rates him as the loop's premier pass receiver.

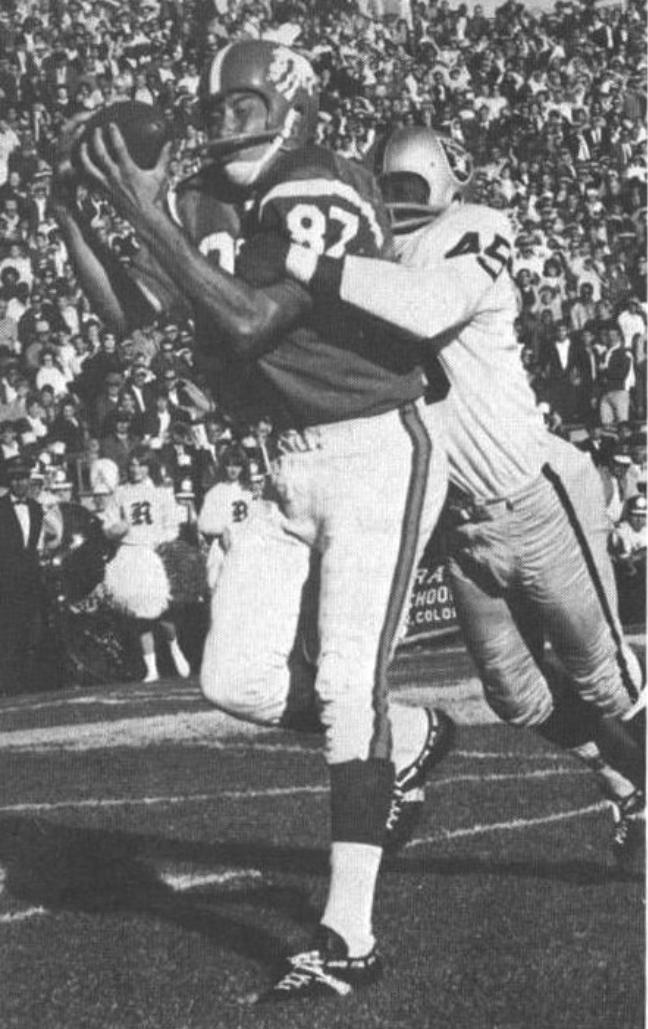
Double-teaming is a fairly familiar expression in pro football, but "double standard" is something else again—and it's likely to raise a few eyebrows around the league. Particularly when it is openly admitted that we do have a double standard on the Denver ball club. We happen to like it that way, because it involves

Lionel Taylor, a super-receiver to my way of thinking.

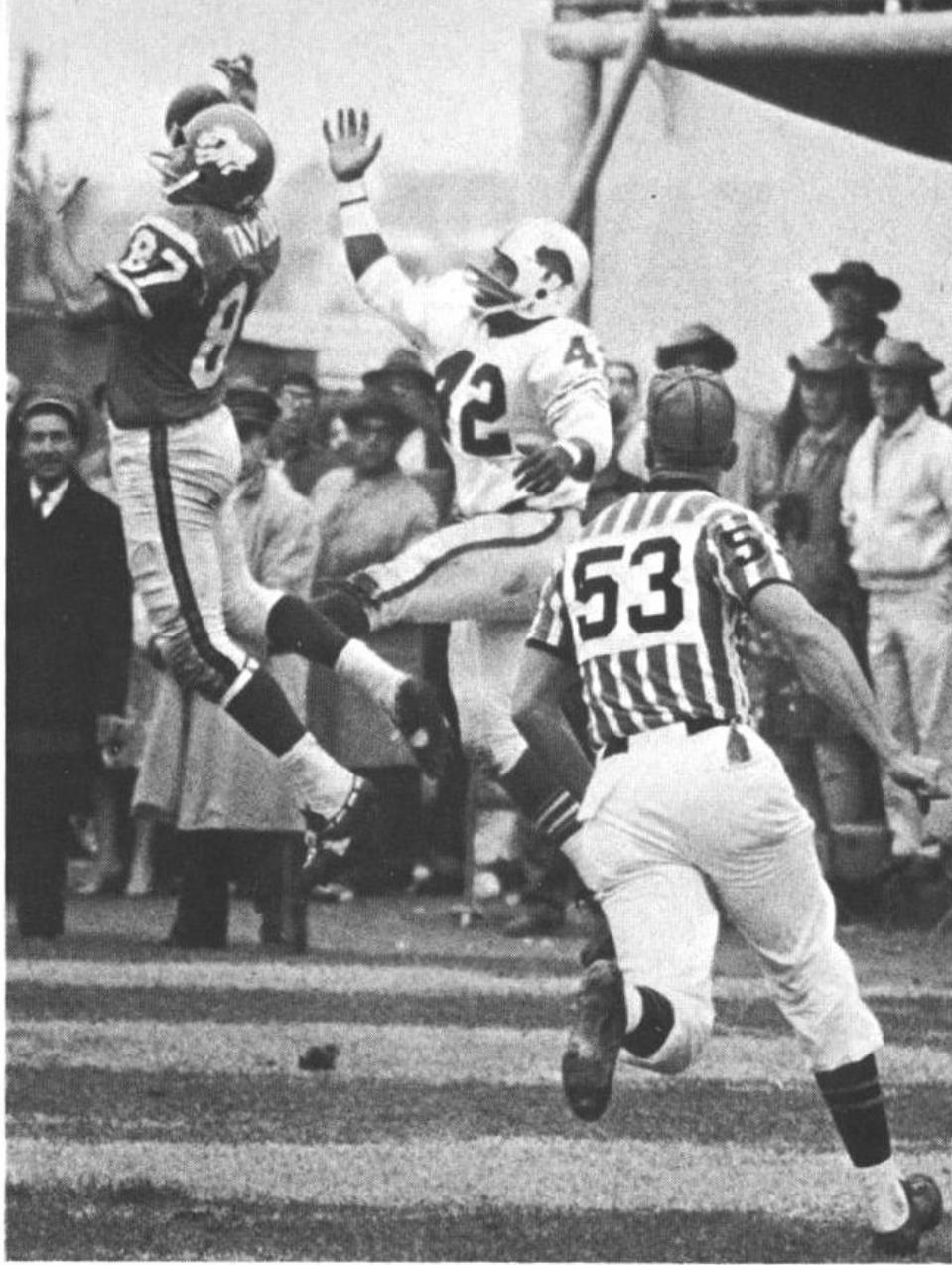
Denver is no different from any other team. We rate our players from game films, as do the other clubs. There's one exception, however: We grade Lionel Taylor one way, and all the rest of our receivers another.

Here's what we do. If the other pass catchers get two full hands on any ball thrown, and can't make the catch, they're credited with a "drop." We don't care if the ball is back of them, off to one side, or anywhere else—two full hands and the man should have it.

With Taylor, who has caught more than 500 passes in a half-dozen years in the American Football League, we are a lot rougher. We figure that whenever



Lionel makes a habit of beating the league's best defenders. Above, he takes a long pass from QB Mickey Slaughter despite the efforts of Dave Grayson of the Raiders. Buffalo's Butch Byrd is the victim, right, on Taylor's leaping touchdown grab. And the Chargers' speedy Les Duncan, opposite page, was just not speedy enough to stop this great fingertip catch off a deft sideline maneuver



TAYLOR TOPS 'EM ALL /continued

he can put his right hand on the ball—get even a finger on it—he has to come up with it. Otherwise, it's a drop. We like it that way and so does Lionel.

As far as I am concerned, he has the best pair of hands in pro ball. There are other receivers around with more speed, or better moves, but as far as the actual mechanics of catching a football are concerned, Taylor is Number One. He's Number One with us in "Desire," too, a quality I consider tops of the four requirements for a receiver. The others are hands, moves and speed. But Desire comes first—and that's spelled with a capital "D."

This is my sixth year coaching Taylor and I honestly feel he has gotten better every year. Certainly his leadership qualities have improved. Last year, he was elected one of our captains and he won our MVP by a handsome margin. If he hadn't, I would have called for another round of balloting!

It's fascinating to speculate on what records Lionel might have chalked up by now had he worked

with one quarterback from the start—or if the Broncos had employed a more diversified attack in their early years. For, while Lionel has been catching passes thrown by six to eight different quarterbacks, whiz kids like Raymond Berry have been snaring them from one quarterback exclusively (in Berry's case, from Johnny Unitas). Such receivers can probably run their patterns blindfolded by now.

The great quarterback throws not to the receiver, but to the spot where the receiver will be. When I was with the Browns, we were blessed with a super-quarterback in Otto Graham. Otto threw to Dante Lavelli and me, and it was that extra split second gained from our knowing each other so well that made all the difference. A receiver is much too busy to worry about looking for the ball until it's exactly time to catch it. It has to be there, then. Executed properly, the precision pass play is virtually unstoppable in a one-to-one defense.

The "philosophy" of successful receiving is fairly uncomplicated. The receiver knows where he is going to be—and the thing is to be there *alone* when the ball arrives. When he leaves the line of scrimmage, he



must do something to "move" the defensive man, forcing that man to commit himself to move in another direction. We call it "turning" the defender. If it is executed properly, the receiver automatically has two steps on his man when he cuts.

If the defending back is "turned" and if the ball is waiting, there can be no valid excuse for not holding it. Pass receivers are paid to catch the ball. That means any kind of pass: a hard one, soft one, nose-up, nose-down, floater, burn-ball. Get those hands on it, "look" it into the arms and hold onto it.

Not too much has changed in the last 10 or 15 years, at least where the receivers are concerned. There are more 9.5 and 9.6 sprinter-types around, and they don't spend so much time on actual moves and patterns. But that doesn't mean that moves and patterns don't pay off. Taylor has to spend most of his time on them, because he can't fly by someone. Nevertheless, he can do the job without burning speed. In '65, he nailed 78 of the 84 passes thrown to him.

His greatest strength probably focuses on the sideline pass, which is so vital to our team's overall

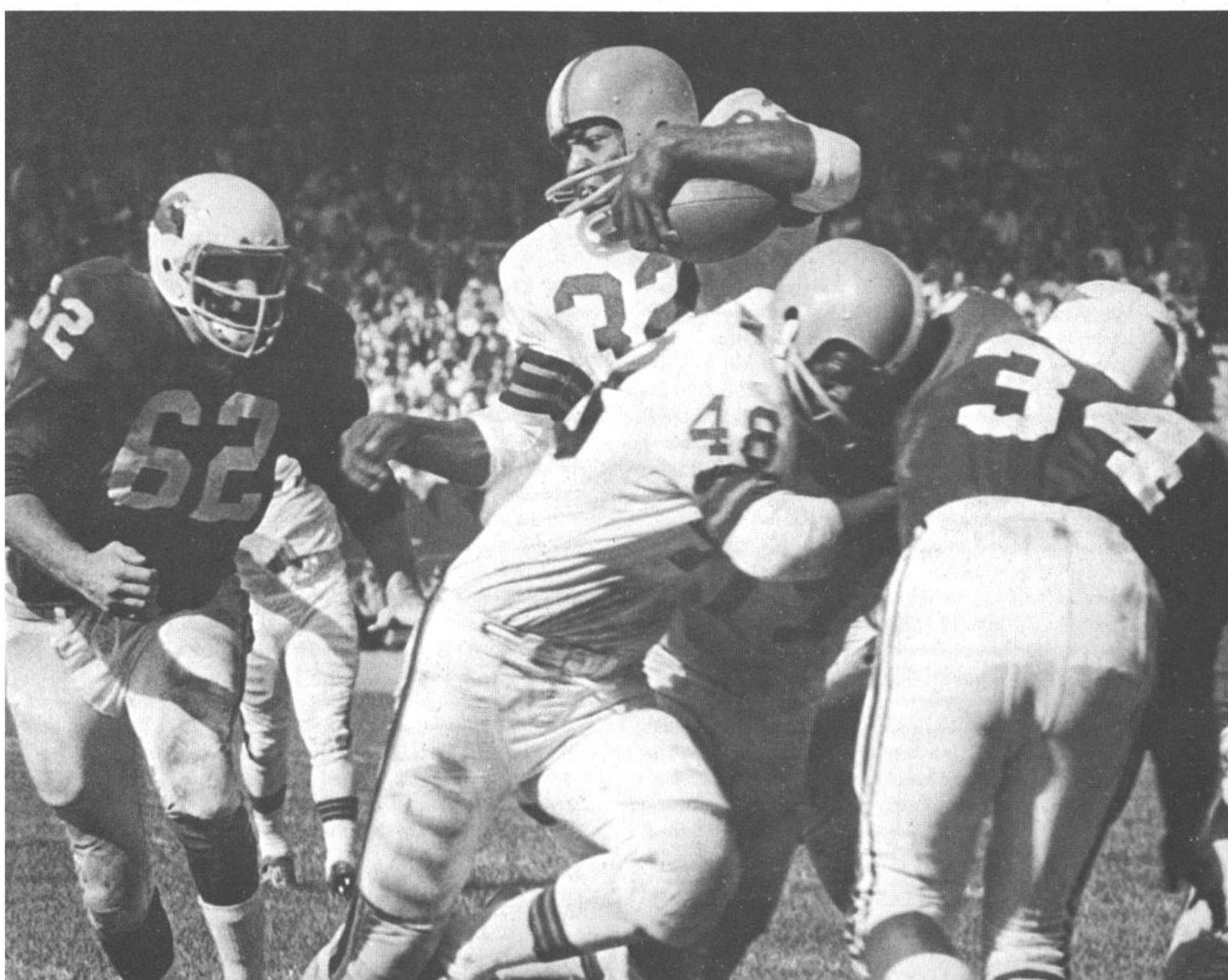
strategy. In that maneuver, where he has to stay in-bounds while making the catch, there are three things to consider. First, he has to catch the ball. Second, he has to elude the defensive back, who'll be crowding him in an area where there's no room to maneuver. And last, there's that sideline to worry about, for the receiver has to have both feet in the field of play for his catch to be legitimate. Taylor is the best man I've ever seen in this department.

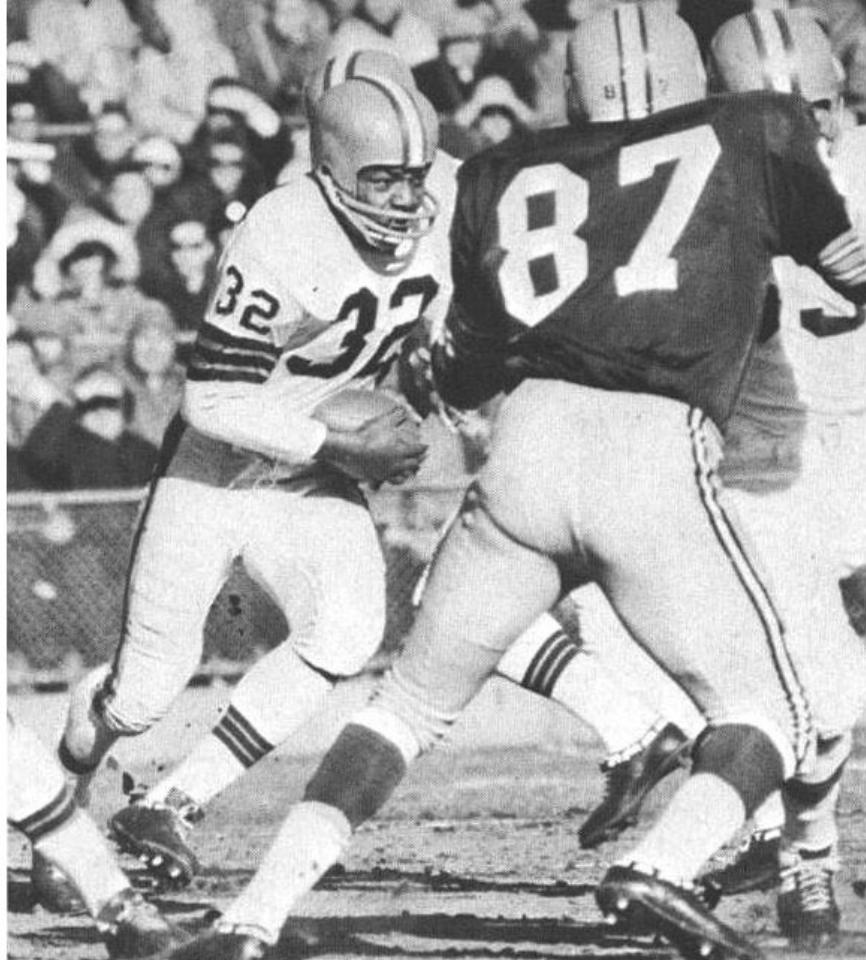
Lionel has a couple of other strong points which any receiver bidding for stardom would do well to study. He is always talking with the officials, making sure they're alert to what he is doing—and he is almost never without a ball in his hands at practice. We have to chase him off the field to keep our quarterbacks from getting dead arms.

There are other fine receivers in the AFL, to be sure—men like Charlie Hennigan, Lance Alworth and Art Powell. They're part of a group which prompts me to say that our league's pass receiving is probably better, overall, than that in the NFL. And, of all the AFL receivers, I flatly contend that Lionel Taylor is best. □



Cleveland's great fullback combined speed, power and finesse in a manner that made him unique among pro ball carriers. He was equally at home knifing through the line, right, busting past tacklers, below, or cruising along in back of a host of blockers, opposite page





J. B. IS GONE, BUT HIS RECORDS REMAIN

In nine years, Cleveland's Jimmy Brown set records that won't fall for a long time—if ever

Records in football, as in everything else, are made to be broken, but when Jimmy Brown hung up his cleats before the start of the '66 season, he left behind a formidable set of statistics to hurdle. Certainly none of the other performers in the all-time top 10 rushers, five of whom were active with Brown during the '65 campaign, have much of a chance to surpass his performance. Brown had a 4,000-yard bulge on his nearest rival, Green Bay's Jim Taylor, entering the 1966 campaign. And all the rest of the top-tenners who played last year were either at the end of their distinguished careers, or close to it. The man destined to eclipse Brown's marks may be a first- or second-year performer right now, could conceivably be in high school or college, or quite possibly hasn't even been born yet! And if he's in college at present, chances are good that some scout, or scouts, will make a mistake on him. After all, should he be any different from J.B.?

It will come as a shock to many that Brown was not only ignored as a first choice when he came out of Syracuse University after the 1956 season, but that *five other* men were picked before Cleveland had its turn and took him. It is interesting to contemplate the possibly different course of pro football history had Brown been picked ahead of the following:

Paul Hornung—Green Bay's bonus pick. After every club had enjoyed a bonus selection over a period of a dozen years, the practice was discarded. Golden Boy had been second in total offense while performing as Notre Dame's quarterback. It so happened that

Green Bay and the Chicago Cards were the two remaining clubs with a bonus pick coming, and Lisle Blackbourn, the Packer coach, drew straws with someone from the Cards at the draft meeting and won the right to pick first.

John Brodie—an outstanding collegiate performer on the West Coast, who was picked by San Francisco as a possible replacement for a fading Y. A. Tittle. The 49ers had the right idea, but were a little off in their timing. Tittle faded, but not until after he had led the Giants into a couple of playoff games. And the injury-plagued Brodie didn't really come into his own until the '65 campaign.

Ron Kramer—the big Michigan end chosen by Green Bay on its regular first-round pick. The Packers got lots of championship service from him before trading him to the Lions last year for a top draft choice.

Len Dawson—was on the scene when Pittsburgh, changing quarterbacks, had decided that Johnny Unitas was not the logical successor to Jim Finks. Dawson was a top-notch Big Ten passer at Purdue. He ultimately made it, but not with Pittsburgh, and not in the National Football League.

Cleveland, picking fifth, took Brown, who was third in the nation in rushing and sixth in total offense. How much longer he would have lasted if the Browns hadn't reached for him no one will ever know. There isn't a talent man still around from that era who won't tell you that if the Browns hadn't taken Jim, he was due to go on his club's first pick. □



NFL

*Even with Jimmy Brown gone, it
looks as if Cleveland and Green Bay
will meet again in January*



WESTERN CONFERENCE

*Despite threats to his reign, it may be awhile before
Vince Lombardi's crew slips from the top spot Prediction: First*

GREEN BAY PACKERS

1965 RECORD (10-3-1)

41	Pittsburgh	9
20	Baltimore	17
23	Chicago	14
27	San Francisco	10
31	Detroit	21
13	Dallas	3
10	Chicago	31
7	Detroit	12
6	Los Angeles	3
38	Minnesota	13
10	Los Angeles	21
24	Minnesota	19
42	Baltimore	27
24	San Francisco	24

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Chandler	0	37	17	88
Hornung	8	0	0	48
Pitts	5	0	0	30
Dowler	4	0	0	24
Long	4	0	0	24
Taylor	4	0	0	24

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Taylor	207	734	4	3.5
Hornung	89	299	5	3.4
Starr	18	169	1	9.4
Moore	51	124	0	2.4

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Starr	250	140	2055	16	9	56.0
Bratkowski	48	21	348	3	4	43.8

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Dowler	44	610	4	13.9
Dale	20	382	2	19.1
Taylor	20	207	0	10.3
Hornung	19	336	3	17.6

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Adderley	6	175	44	28.9
Wood	6	65	28	10.8
Hart	4	29	24	7.2
Robinson	3	141	87	47.0

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Chandler	74	3176	90	42.9

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Pitts	8	27	12	3.8
Wood	13	38	14	2.9

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Moore	15	361	52	24.1
Adderley	10	221	33	22.1
Pitts	20	396	29	19.8
Crutcher	3	53	21	17.7

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Brown, Allen (T)	6-4	230	23	2	Mississippi
Dowler, Boyd (F)	6-5	225	28	8	Colorado
Fleming, Marv (T-F)	6-4	235	24	4	Utah
Long, Bob (F-T)	6-3	215	24	3	Wichita
McGee, Max (S)	6-3	205	34	11	Tulane
Dale, Carroll (S)	6-1	195	28	7	V.P.I.
Anderson, Bill (T)	6-3	225	30	8	Tennessee
Jeter, Tony (T)	6-3	230	21	1	Nebraska
White, Jeff (F)	6-3	185	23	1	Texas Tech
(S)—Split end					
(T)—Tight End					
(F)—Flanker					

Comments
Dowler and McGee are established top-liners at flanker and split end. Problem is at tight end, where Fleming started season in '65 and had Lombardi looking for help most of way. Anderson finished up big in playoff and championship. Bob Jeter's younger brother, Tony, could be the answer. There's all kinds of ability in this corps; problem is to come up with best combo. RATING—VERY GOOD

INTERIOR LINEMEN					
Bowman, Ken (C)	6-3	230	23	3	Wisconsin
Gregg, Forrest (T-G)	6-4	250	32	10	S.M.U.
Skoronski, Bob (T)	6-3	250	32	9	Indiana
Thurston, Fred (G)	6-1	245	32	9	Valparaiso
Curry, Bill (C)	6-2	235	24	2	Georgia Tech
Kramer, Jerry (G)	6-3	250	30	9	Idaho
Gillingham, Gale (G)	6-3	250	22	1	Minnesota
Wenzel, Ralph (G)	6-1	240	22	1	San Diego State
Wright, Steve (T)	6-6	260	24	3	Alabama
(T)—Tackle					
(G)—Guard					
(C)—Center					

All-veteran lineup makes it difficult for newcomers to break in here. Gillingham, high draft choice, has best chance. He'd have to beat out Fuzzy Thurston or Jerry Kramer. Latter staged medical comeback of the year to play full season in championship form. Gregg and Skoronski account for tackle jobs, Bowman is solid at center with Curry in reserve. Watch these boys go. RATING—VERY GOOD

QUARTERBACKS					
Starr, Bart	6-1	200	32	11	Alabama
Bratkowski, Zeke	6-3	200	34	11	Georgia
Smith, Ron	6-5	220	24	2	Richmond
(T)—Tackle					
(G)—Guard					
(C)—Center					

Starr does everything asked of a championship field general. Brat came through when Bart was injured last year. RATING—EXCELLENT

RUNNING BACKS					
Hornung, Paul (H)	6-3	215	30	9	Notre Dame
Pitts, Elijah (H)	6-1	205	27	6	Philander Smith
Taylor, Jim (F)	6-0	215	30	9	L.S.U.
Symons, Bill (H)	6-0	200	23	2	Colorado
Jacobs, Allen (F)	6-0	215	25	2	Utah
Anderson, Donnie (H)	6-3	212	23	1	Texas Tech
Grabowski, Jim (F)	6-2	220	22	1	Illinois
(F)—Fullback					
(H)—Halfback					

Hornung-Taylor are probably best one-two punch in league. Newcomers Anderson and Grabowski, representing million-dollar bonus package, have to oust these vets who are still as hungry as they were a half-dozen seasons ago. Pitts is a fine back-up. Symons could wind up on defense. RATING—EXCELLENT

KICKER					
Chandler, Don	6-2	210	32	11	Florida

Don regained touch. RATING—EXCELLENT

DEFENSE					
FRONT LINEMEN					
Aldridge, Lionel (E)	6-4	240	25	4	Utah State
Davis, Willie (E)	6-3	245	32	9	Grambling
Jordan, Henry (T)	6-3	250	31	10	Virginia
Kostelnik, Ron (T)	6-4	260	26	6	Cincinnati
Voss, Lloyd (T)	6-4	260	24	3	Nebraska
Heron, Fred (T)	6-5	250	22	1	San Jose State
Marshall, Rich (T)	6-5	275	25	2	Stephen F. Austin
(E)—End					
(T)—Tackle					

Davis is All-League on one end, Aldridge is close to it on the other. Jordan's the "pappy" of this unit with Dave Hanner gone. Kostelnik fills other tackle, with Voss pushing. Heron was top draft choice. The brilliant work of their front four brought the Packers the '66 flag, and they seem set again. RATING—EXCELLENT

LINEBACKERS					
Caffey, Lee Roy (O)	6-3	250	25	4	Texas A&M
Crutcher, Tommy (O)	6-3	230	24	3	Texas Christian
Nitschke, Ray (M)	6-3	240	29	9	Illinois
Robinson, Dave (O)	6-3	245	25	4	Penn State
Shinn, Mike (O)	6-3	225	23	1	Kansas
(O)—Outside linebacker					
(M)—Middle linebacker					

Nitschke in middle and Robinson, Caffey on outside provide Packers with another top-notch group. Crutcher is fourth man in this bunch; Shinn's the best of rookie hopefuls. Robinson is en route to top status. RATING—EXCELLENT

DEFENSIVE BACKS					
Adderley, Herb (C)	6-0	210	27	6	Michigan State
Brown, Tom (S)	6-1	190	25	3	Maryland
Hart, Doug (C)	6-0	190	27	3	Arlington State
Wood, Willie (S)	5-10	190	29	7	U.S.C.
Jeter, Bob (C)	6-1	205	29	4	Iowa
Hatcock, Dave (C-S)	6-0	190	23	1	Memphis State
(C)—Corner back					
(S)—Safety					

Packers have experienced considerable shifting here without loss of effectiveness. Adderley, Hart and Jeter vie for corner roles; Wood, and maturing Brown provide experience and youth in safety spots. Hart and Jeter are ex-receivers. RATING—EXCELLENT

You can hear Vince Lombardi all the way over in De Pere when an underling in the Green Bay front office forgets to replace his telephone directory, but, basically, Vincent is pretty much an imperturbable fellow. "Football," he insists, "is a game played in the dirt. It's just a matter of who tackles and blocks better."

He also said, after he had lost a couple of key assistants to Atlanta and the Pitt Steelers last winter, "Having new people around doesn't bother me. I like to count on everyone, but not too much."

But there are things that can bring Lombardi up out of his chair in rapid-fire fashion, and one of these was a wire-service photo taken early last spring during a rattlesnake hunt in Sweetwater, Tex. Not on the outskirts of Sweetwater, but in downtown Sweetwater. For some reptilian reason that particular area had proved attractive to the local diamondback population. So—would all the adventuresome young men in the area please turn out, properly equipped, and clear out the critters? The danged things were interfering with the local cocktail hour.

Lombardi's interest in Sweetwater's civic problems would have been nil except for one slightly upsetting fact. There, in the picture of a grinning young snake-hunter holding up a grinning diamondback, he spotted Donny Anderson, his big running back draft from Texas Tech. Anderson represents a \$1-million-plus bonus package along with Illinois' Jim Grabowski.

The roar Lombardi let go could be heard halfway to the Panhandle. "Put it down," he screamed to the obviously oblivious newspaper page.

Now in his eighth campaign with the Packers, Lombardi has what could be the greatest collection of running backs ever assembled. To start with, he has Jim Taylor and Paul Hornung, then the million-dollar babies, plus Elijah Pitts as a veteran backup.

Where does a man acquire such a profusion of riches? From having one of the keenest brains in the

business, that's where. There is a generation coming to flower that remembers Vince Lombardi only as a perennial winner with an overall record of 68-23-3 going into the 1966 campaign. Not too many people remember that the Packers were 1-10-1 the year before Lombardi took over.

In the accompanying charts, Green Bay is rated "very good" in two categories, receivers and interior linemen. Everywhere else the Packers draw an unequivocal "excellent." It is an evaluation unmatched anywhere else in the NFL—or the AFL, either.

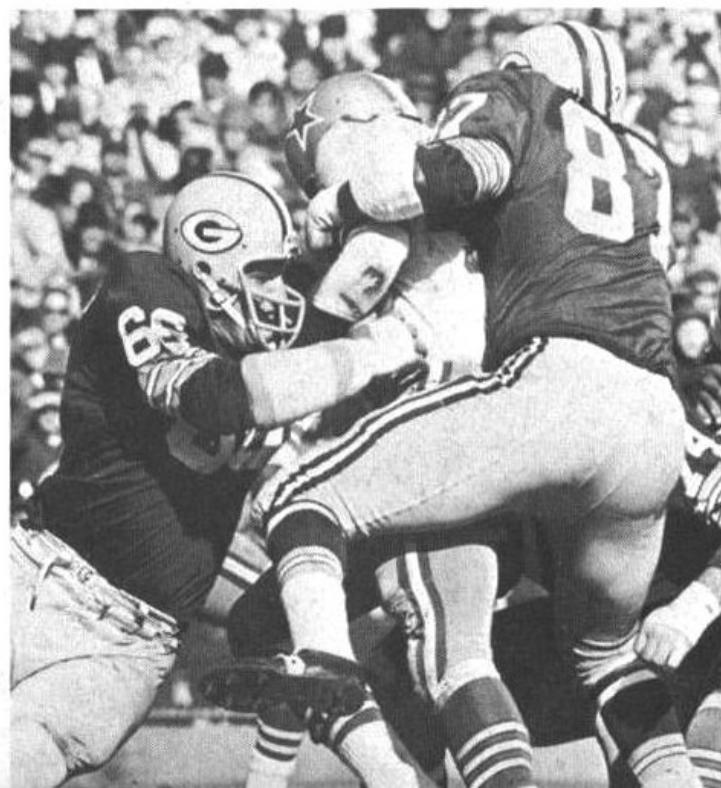
Lombardi cares little for others' evaluation. He knows what he has, and what he doesn't have. And in his pocket, to rub against each other during such infrequent times as he might suffer small doubts, are the three victories he rang up against the Colts in 1965 and the way the Packers did it. Green Bay won a close one the first time, smashed through to a second triumph, then won the third in the muck and gloom of an unprecedented overtime via the toe of Don Chandler.

Chandler is a tribute to Lombardi's sagacity. Vince needed a kicker for insurance against the possibility that Jerry Kramer or Hornung couldn't do it in 1965. Chandler was available, but a real gamble. Lombardi is an ex-Giant assistant. He knows the Giants make few mistakes. But he gambled a high draft pick for Chandler, who repaid him with a championship.

Or take Zeke Bratkowski, like Bart Starr now in his second decade in pro ball. Bratkowski was doing little or nothing in LA when Lombardi traded for him. Two years later, Starr was injured and without Zeke, the Packers wouldn't have won in '65, either.

That makes two recent trades that have added up to another championship. Maybe football is a game "played in the dirt," as Green Bay's head man says, but football championships are won through the involved thinking processes of men like Lombardi, no matter what Lombardi says. Or how loudly he yells. □

Green Bay's defense is epitomized in this photo: hard hitting, and more than one man on a tackle. Linebacker Ray Nitschke (66), end Willie Davis (87) and friends stop Dallas' Don Perkins right in his tracks



WESTERN CONFERENCE

The feeling is that everything—or almost everything—is about to mesh for this well-balanced outfit Prediction: Second

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

1965 RECORD (7-6-1)

52	Chicago	24
27	Pittsburgh	17
24	Baltimore	27
10	Green Bay	27
45	Los Angeles	21
41	Minnesota	42
28	Baltimore	34
31	Dallas	39
27	Detroit	21
30	Los Angeles	27
45	Minnesota	24
17	Detroit	14
20	Chicago	61
24	Green Bay	24

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Davis	0	52	17	103
Parks	12	0	0	72
Willard	9	0	0	54
Crow	9	0	0	54

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Willard	189	778	5	4.1
Crow	132	514	2	3.9
Lewis	52	256	3	4.9
Kopay	28	81	3	2.8

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Brodie	391	242	3112	30	16	61.9
Mira	58	28	460	4	3	48.2

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Parks	80	1344	12	16.8
Casey	59	765	8	12.9
Stickles	35	343	1	9.8
Willard	32	253	4	7.9

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Johnson	6	47	26	7.9
Alexander	3	23	6	7.6
Kimbrough	2	5	5	2.5
Wilcox	1	16	16	16.0

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Davis	54	2471	65	45.8

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Alexander	35	262	40	7.5
Swinford	2	18	18	9.0

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Alexander	32	742	46	23.1
Lewis	14	334	39	23.8

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Burke, Vern (T)	6-4	202	25	3	Oregon State
Casey, Bernie (F)	6-4	209	27	6	Bowling Green
McFarland, Kay (S)	6-2	186	28	5	Colorado State
Parks, Dave (S)	6-2	207	24	3	Texas Tech
Poole, Bob (T)	6-2	213	24	3	Clemson
Stickles, Monty (T)	6-4	235	28	7	Notre Dame
(S)—Split end	(T)—Tight end	(F)—Flanker			

Comments

Emergence of Parks as league's No. 1 pass catcher enabled Casey to have his best year. Between them they caught 139 passes. McFarland can serve as backup for either. Stickles, a little off last year, can do the job at tight end. Burke watched. RATING—VERY GOOD

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Bosley, Bruce (C)	6-2	246	32	11	West Virginia
Cerne, Joe (C)	6-2	235	24	2	Northwestern
Mudd, Howard (G)	6-2	263	24	3	Hillsdale
Norton, Jim (T)	6-4	255	24	2	Washington
Hettema, Dave (T)	6-4	227	24	1	New Mexico
McCormick, Dave (T)	6-6	250	23	1	L.S.U.
Rock, Walt (T)	6-4	257	26	4	Maryland
Rohde, Len (T)	6-4	255	28	7	Utah State
Thomas, John (G)	6-4	250	31	9	U. of Pacific
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center			

Unit had fine year in 1965. Bosley had his best. Rock and Rohde are solid at tackles. Thomas and Mudd have guard roles. With extensive tackle depth Norton may be tried on defense. McCormick's a highly touted rookie with "can't-miss" tag. Brodie's great performance was the result of inspired line play, and it must happen again in '66 if the club is to threaten in the West. RATING—GOOD

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Brodie, John	6-1	210	31	10	Stanford
Kilmer, Billy	6-0	204	27	5	U.C.L.A.
Mira, George	5-11	192	24	3	Miami (Fla.)

Brodie set records last year with 242 completions, 30 TDs. Mira played little, shares backup role with Kilmer. RATING—VERY GOOD

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Crow, John David (H)	6-2	224	31	9	Texas A&M
Daugherty, Bob (H)	6-2	205	24	1	Tulsa
Kopay, Dave (H)	6-0	225	24	3	Washington
Lewis, Gary (F)	6-2	230	24	3	Arizona State
Willard, Ken (F)	6-2	230	22	2	North Carolina
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

If Crow avoids injury and Willard repeats rookie performance, San Francisco should have one of better one-two punches. Lewis and Kopay are backups, and Gary had best rushing average last year. RATING—VERY GOOD

KICKER

KICKER	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Davis, Tommy	6-0	220	31	8	L.S.U.

Davis scores consistently. RATING—GOOD

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Johnson, Charlie (T)	6-2	266	22	1	Louisville
Krueger, Charlie (T)	6-4	267	30	8	Texas A&M
Lakes, Roland (T)	6-4	285	26	6	Wichita
LaRose, Dan (E)	6-5	250	27	6	Missouri
Miller, Clark (E)	6-5	244	28	5	Utah State
Rubke, Karl (E)	6-4	244	30	10	U.S.C.
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle				

Krueger and Lakes are strong at tackle, ditto Miller at end. End Dan Colchico won't return this year because of heel injury. Rubke subbed for him, and would probably be used again. Johnson's a top rookie. LaRose has been around awhile. RATING—FAIR

LINEBACKERS

LINEBACKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Beard, Ed (M)	6-1	225	26	2	Tennessee
Chapple, Jack (O)	6-1	225	23	2	Stanford
Dowdle, Mike (M)	6-3	248	28	7	Texas
Harrison, Bob (M)	6-2	225	29	8	Oklahoma
Hazeltine, Matt (O)	6-1	230	33	12	California
Weisacosky, Ed (O)	6-1	219	22	1	Miami
Wilcox, Dave (O)	6-2	234	23	3	Oregon
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker				

There's plenty of experience in Dowdle, Hazeltine, Wilcox, but first two missed much of last season with injuries. Chapple and Beard learned as rookies. Harrison backs up in middle. Team has high hopes for Weisacosky, lightest of group. There's certainly room for him. RATING—FAIR

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Alexander, Kermit (C)	5-11	183	25	4	U.C.L.A.
Bland, Dan (C)	6-0	182	22	1	Mississippi State
Donnelly, George (S)	6-3	205	24	2	Illinois
Johnson, Jim (C)	6-2	187	28	6	U.C.L.A.
Kimbrough, Elbert (S)	5-11	196	27	6	Northwestern
Mertens, Jerry (C)	6-0	192	30	9	Drake
Phillips, Mel (S)	6-0	188	22	1	N. Carolina A&T
(C)—Corner back	(S) Safety				

Fourth man is needed here to go with Alexander, Kimbrough, Johnson. Kermit has come long way since top receivers plagued him as rookie. Mertens injured neck last year, may not play. Donnelly was used good deal but needs more experience. Bland, Phillips were among first five draft picks. RATING—FAIR

"I don't know whether I like it this way," said the light-hearted Matt Hazeltine. "It used to be that when we were playing I had no trouble picking out my wife in the stands. Now, with all these people, it's not so easy any more."

Hazeltine, a veteran linebacker, is one of those who has seen some thin crowds at Kezar Stadium, home of the 49ers. The crowds stopped coming in the early '60s for a pretty good reason. After the shotgun season of '61, when the 49ers finished with a 7-6-1 mark, the same record as last year, the local fortunes declined precipitously. Red Hickey was canned and his successor, Jack Christiansen, looked as though he was to be around only until his laundry came back. But surprisingly, the management kept Christiansen even though the '63 49ers finished up with a 2-12 record. The only reason they didn't make it into the league cellar the following year was because the Giants had taken hold with a snappy 2-10-2 mark. Then last year the 49ers actually became a team to contend with, a team that could even challenge in '66 with a big running attack complemented by John Brodie's passing. A couple of key plugs in the defense just might have the 49ers in there bidding for the big prize.

Dave Parks and Ken Willard are a couple of the most exciting young players to reach San Francisco in a long time. Parks was a little-known receiver out of Texas Tech when the 49ers picked him No. 1 in the draft, causing a lot of raised eyebrows because they also needed a quarterback, and George Mira was available. (They got Mira anyway on the next time around.) Willard came for 1965 highly rated and, as it turned out, deservedly so. He racked up 778 yards in his first season, which was almost three times the figure achieved by San Francisco's best runner the previous year. John David Crow, the much-injured running back who came from the Cards in a trade for Abe Woodson, revived and racked up 500-plus yardage.

Together, this pair gave Brodie the throwing room he needed and John responded with a team TD mark.

The 49ers have had some pretty fair flingers in the past, ranging from Frankie Albert to Y. A. Tittle. Brodie broke Albert's 17-year-old record of 29 TDs by one. He also hit young Parks a dozen times with six-pointers, giving Parks a handsome two-year total of 20. It's no record, but it could be an indication. Brodie's 242 completions constitute an NFL mark, eclipsing Johnny Unitas' old 237.

A healthy Brodie throwing to confident young receivers like Parks and Bernie Casey could mean lots of successful action on the field and lots of demand at the box office. The pass blocking he got last year must have been exceptional for him to complete 61.9 per cent of his efforts. His performance was also reflected in another section of the statistics: The 49ers went from scoring the fewest number of points (236) to the most (421) in one season.

The big showing, a hint that the 49ers might eventually come through with the conference title that has eluded them ever since coming into the NFL a decade and a half ago, could scarcely have come at a more opportune moment. The recent merger between the NFL and AFL stipulated that both San Francisco and the Oakland Raiders would share the same territory. But an intense rivalry still exists between the clubs. With the 49ers a title threat in the West, there is no longer the danger of a weak sister in the Bay Area. (Oakland is one of the solid clubs in the AFL.)

Observers must consider, though, what Christiansen, Brodie, & Co. are up against in their Western Conference. It's not as if the competition stemmed from one club, or even two. Green Bay, Baltimore, Chicago—and any one of the "have not's" who gets a hot hand—will guarantee that the pot will keep boiling right to the end. Whoever wins—San Francisco included—will have to do everything right. □

Three-fourths of San Francisco's punch is shown here: halfback John David Crow (44) with the ball, rookie fullback Ken Willard (40) leading interference and QB John Brodie (12) after the handoff



WESTERN CONFERENCE

Here's another Western club that can't be taken too lightly, especially if Johnny U. is 100 per cent Prediction: Third

BALTIMORE COLTS

1965 RECORD (10-3-1)

35	Minnesota	16
17	Green Bay	20
27	San Francisco	24
31	Detroit	7
38	Washington	7
35	Los Angeles	20
34	San Francisco	28
26	Chicago	21
41	Minnesota	21
34	Philadelphia	24
24	Detroit	24
0	Chicago	13
27	Green Bay	42
20	Los Angeles	17

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Michaels	0	48	17*	101
Orr	10	0	0	60
Moore	8	0	0	48
Berry	7	0	0	42

* Includes safety

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Hill	147	516	5	3.4
Moore	133	464	5	3.5
Lorick	63	296	1	4.7
Matte	69	235	1	3.4

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Unitas	282	164	2530	23	12	58.2
Cuozzo	105	54	700	7	4	51.4
Brown	5	3	81	1	0	60.0
Matte	7	1	19	0	1	14.3

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Berry	58	739	7	12.9
Orr	45	847	10	18.8
Mackey	40	832	7	20.8
Moore	27	414	3	15.2

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Boyd	9	78	24	8.6
Harris	3	77	36	25.7
Haymond	3	47	30	15.7
Logan	2	74	38	37.0

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Gilburg	54	2139	66	39.6

PUNT RETURNS

	Retns	Yds	Longest	Avg
Haymond	41	403	55	9.8
Hawkins	4	18	11	4.5

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Retns	Yds	Longest	Avg
Haymond	20	614	53	30.7
Felts	10	193	36	19.3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Here's another Western club that can't be taken too lightly, especially if Johnny U. is 100 per cent Prediction: Third

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Berry, Raymond (S)	6-2	187	33	12	S.M.U.
Mackey, John (T)	6-2	217	24	4	Syracuse
Orr, Jimmy (F)	5-11	175	30	9	Georgia
Richardson, Willie (F)	6-2	198	26	4	Jackson State
Wilson, Butch (T)	6-2	218	25	4	Alabama
Kestner, Rick (S-F)	6-1	200	22	1	Florida
(S)—Split End	(T)—Tight End	(F)—Flanker			

Comments

Alex Hawkins and Neil Petties were lost to Falcons, but Colts are set. Berry has caught more passes than anyone else in football history and is Unitas' prime target. Orr is next. Mackey is first-class tight end. Kestner was high draft. RATING—EXCELLENT

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Allison, Butch (T-G)	6-3	253	22	1	Missouri
Ball, Sam (T)	6-5	245	22	1	Kentucky
Nutter, Buzz (C)	6-4	235	34	13	V.P.I.
Parker, Jim (G)	6-3	275	32	10	Ohio State
Ressler, Glen (C)	6-3	235	23	2	Penn State
Sullivan, Dan (G-T)	6-3	250	27	5	Boston College
Szymanski, Dick (C)	6-3	235	32	11	Notre Dame
Vogel, Bob (T)	6-5	250	24	4	Ohio State
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center			

Ball gets shot here in effort to fill tackle spot vacated by George Preas. Ditto Sullivan in guard spot for Alex Sandusky. Otherwise it's first class all the way. Vogel, Parker are two that can be ranked outstanding; Szymanski is solid. Ressler gets look at center job in second year. Nutter struggles to stay on. Allison could surprise. RATING—VERY GOOD

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Unitas, John	6-1	194	33	11	Louisville
Cuozzo, Gary	6-1	195	25	4	Virginia
Matte, Tom	6-0	205	27	6	Ohio State
Brown, Ed	6-2	220	38	13	San Francisco

If Unitas' knee has fully mended, everyone sits and watches. If not, Colts must go to Cuozzo, then Matte, whose stepping into qb role last year was a high point. RATING—EXCELLENT

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Curtis, Mike (F)	6-2	225	22	2	Duke
Hill, Jerry (F)	5-11	210	26	5	Wyoming
Lorick, Tony (F)	6-1	215	25	3	Arizona State
Moore, Lenny (H)	6-1	190	32	11	Penn State
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

Hill and Lorick have good size for fullbacks. Latter was bothered by injuries last year. Curtis was drafted as linebacker, wound up at fullback. Moore is aging. RATING—GOOD

KICKER

KICKER	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Michaels, Lou	6-2	240	29	9	Kentucky

Over 100 points in '65. RATING—VERY GOOD

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Braase, Ordell (E)	6-4	242	32	10	South Dakota
Hilton, Roy (E)	6-6	235	23	2	Jackson State
Michaels, Lou (E-K)	6-2	240	29	9	Kentucky
Miller, Fred (T)	6-3	245	26	4	L.S.U.
Smith, Billy Ray (T)	6-4	240	31	9	Arkansas
Stynchula, Andy (E)	6-3	250	27	7	Penn State
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle				

The Colts appear to be set here with Braase and Michaels at ends, Smith and Miller at tackles. Stynchula, who was injury-ridden most of last year with Giants, can play both positions, prefers end. Soph Hilton is available for reserve duty. RATING—VERY GOOD

LINEBACKERS

LINEBACKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Burkett, Jack (O)	6-4	228	29	6	Auburn
Davis, Ted (O)	6-1	225	24	3	Georgia Tech
Gaubatz, Dennis (O)	6-2	230	25	4	L.S.U.
Shinnick, Don (O)	6-0	235	31	10	U.C.L.A.
Strofolino, Mike (O)	6-2	237	22	2	Villanova
Stonebreaker, Steve (M)	6-3	222	27	5	Detroit
Maliszewski, Stan (O)	6-1	225	22	1	Princeton
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker				

Stonebreaker is now established in middle, flanked by Gaubatz, Shinnick. Shinnick was out much of last year. Davis will have look at corner where Burkett also bids. Maliszewski had size in Ivy League where few opposing linemen matched up to him, but could find it a little different in pros. RATING—GOOD

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Boyd, Bob (C)	5-10	190	28	7	Oklahoma
Haymond, Al (C)	6-0	190	24	3	Southern U.
Logan, Jerry (S)	6-1	185	25	4	W. Texas State
Lyles, Lenny (C)	6-2	202	30	9	Louisville
Welch, Jim (S)	6-0	190	28	7	S.M.U.
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety				

Boyd, NFL's interception leader, will play one corner, tough Lenny Lyles the other. Logan is adequate at one safety; other will be filled by Welch or Haymond. Latter is probably as fast as any on kickoff returns. RATING—GOOD

The Colts cut themselves a couple of slices of 1965's record cake they'd just as soon have left for someone else: They lost two quarterbacks to injuries within a two-week span, and dropped three games to the Packers. The latter included a playoff, the longest on record, with a halfback at quarterback for Baltimore.

Tom Matte, the ex-halfback in question, became a kind of folk hero in Baltimore by taking the Colts into 13:39 minutes worth of a fifth period before submitting to the Packers. But no one, including Matte himself, compared him even remotely to a Johnny Unitas or a Gary Cuozzo.

The Colts started the 1965 campaign with one of the most feared one-two punches in the league—Johnny U. and his youthful understudy—and wound up in surgery. Unitas had his knee wrecked by the Bears one week, Cuozzo suffered a shoulder separation against Green Bay the next. It is all past history now, but painful past history.

The Colts look for Johnny U., in his 11th NFL campaign, to make history of another kind in '66. Moving into the season, he was only three TDs short of Y. A. Tittle's lifetime record of 212 touchdown tosses. For his receivers Johnny has a seasoned corps that included Ray Berry, who has caught more passes than anyone else in history. Abetting Raymond are John Mackey and Jimmy Orr. Seldom has the skilled artisan been furnished with such precision tools.

The 1966 Colts are a threat in the West, and probably are the team to beat. In three years, Colt clubs coached by Don Shula have compiled an impressive 30-11-1 record. Moving up to '66 they had won 27 of their last 34.

In each of the three years Shula has been running the show, he has come up with important and advantageous deals, getting Steve Stonebreaker and Lou Michaels in one trade, and Dennis Gaubatz in another. This past winter, Andy Stynchula, the ser-

viceable end-tackle, came from the Giants. Shula lost two stalwarts from his offensive line when George Preas and Alex Sandusky retired, but the feeling is that new men will acquit themselves well in these spots.

It all gets back to Unitas and whether he has recovered mobility and strength in his knee. With him the Colts are a threat for Western honors, without him they are a good, but uninspired, ball club.

Although the Colts figured they had more pressing problems, the fact remains that Baltimore could use a big breakaway threat (their first three draft choices were non-runners). It's a little too much to hope for another Alan Ameche to come along, but someone in the 700-yard class would be welcome indeed. Last year's big rusher, Jerry Hill, was a 500-yarder. The year before Lenny Moore, scoring 16 TDs on the ground, was only good for 584. Tony Lorick, a 500-yarder as a frosh when he was in the running for Rookie-of-the-Year honors, dipped to around 300.

Two other performers are worth singling out for special mention—Michaels, the defensive end-kicking specialist and Al Haymond, the incredibly fast kickoff and punt return specialist. The left-footed Michaels, who came from the Steelers for the 1964 season, has contributed 221 points in two seasons. Haymond, a little-heralded performer from Southern U. who managed to hang on, gave the Colts yardage totaling 1,000-plus in leading both in punt returns (403) and kickoff returns (614). In the latter department he averaged a giddy 30.7 on 20 returns. A comparison is furnished by the fact that the two top Colt efforts in these categories the previous year amounted to only half of Haymond's figures.

This year's championship won't be won on last year's statistical tables, but they do prove one thing for Don Shula and anyone else who cares to have a look. The Colts have done it before. What's to prevent them from doing it again? □

Precision in execution is the key to any football team, and the Colts have more than their share of it. Here, top quarterback and field general, Johnny Unitas, hands off to start a play



WESTERN CONFERENCE

One-year veterans Gale Sayers and Dick Butkus make this outfit go—but they're not quite enough. Prediction: Fourth

CHICAGO BEARS

1965 RECORD (9-5-0)

24	San Francisco	52
28	Los Angeles	30
14	Green Bay	23
31	Los Angeles	6
45	Minnesota	37
38	Detroit	10
31	Green Bay	10
21	Baltimore	26
34	St. Louis	13
17	Detroit	10
35	New York	14
13	Baltimore	0
61	San Francisco	20
17	Minnesota	24

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Sayers	22	0	0	132
LeClerc	0	52	11	85
Arnett	5	0	0	30
Bull	4	0	0	24

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Sayers	166	867	14	5.2
Bull	91	417	3	4.6
Arnett	102	363	5	3.6
Livingston	63	363	2	5.8

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Bukich	312	176	2641	20	9	56.4
Wade	41	20	204	0	2	48.8

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Morris	53	846	4	16.0
Ditka	36	454	2	12.6
Sayers	29	507	6	17.5
Jones	21	350	4	16.7

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Butkus	5	84	38	16.8
McRae	4	116	89	29.0
Whitsell	4	67	32	16.7
Petitbon	2	22	18	11.0

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Green	58	2479	66	42.7

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Sayers	16	238	85	14.9
Arnett	11	52	22	4.7

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Livingston	2	66	42	33.0
Sayers	21	660	96	31.4

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Ditka, Mike (T)	6-3	230	26	2	Pittsburgh
Gordon, Dick (S)	5-11	190	21	2	Michigan State
Jones, Jim (S)	6-2	187	25	2	Wisconsin
Morris, Johnny (F)	5-10	180	30	9	Santa Barbara
(S)—Split end	(T)—Tight end	(F)—Flanker			

Comments
Morris, Ditka caught 100 fewer passes between them than previous year, but are still deadly duo. Jones averaged TD every five receptions. RATING—VERY GOOD

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Comments
Cadile, Jim (G)	6-3	240	26	San Jose State
Cornish, Frank (T)	6-3	285	22	Grambling
Lee, Herman (T)	6-3	247	33	Florida A&M
Mattson, Riley (T)	6-4	255	27	Oregon
Pyle, Palmer (G)	6-3	250	29	Michigan State
Pyle, Mike (C)	6-3	250	27	Yale
Rabold, Mike (G)	6-3	238	29	Indiana
Seals, George (G)	6-3	260	23	Missouri
Wefoska, Bob (T)	6-3	240	29	Notre Dame
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center		

There's plenty of experience and depth here, with Ivy Leaguer Mike Pyle in the middle and brother Palmer at one of guard spots. Lee, Wefoska and Mattson get competition at tackle from rookie Cornish, a 1964 future pick from Grambling. Seals came from Redskins, bids for guard role with Cadile and Rabold. It'll be very tough for new man to break in here. RATING—VERY GOOD

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Comments
Bukich, Rudy	6-2	205	34	U.S.C.
Meyer, Ron	6-4	205	21	S. Dakota State
Rakestraw, Larry	6-2	195	24	Georgia
Wade, Bill	6-2	205	35	Vanderbilt

Bukich took job after first couple of games and kept it; he is as good with the bomb as any in the business. Wade's in tough comeback role. RATING—GOOD

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Comments
Arnett, Jon (H)	5-11	203	31	U.S.C.
Bivins, Charley (H)	6-2	212	27	Morris Brown
Bull, Ronnie (H)	6-0	200	26	Baylor
Livingston, Andy (F)	6-0	234	21	Phoenix J.C.
Marconi, Joe (F)	6-2	225	31	West Virginia
Piccolo, Brian (H)	6-0	205	22	Wake Forest
Sayers, Gale (H)	6-0	198	23	Kansas
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback			

Sayers was great rookie, set TD record. He can do everything and must be double-teamed on halfback pass. Livingston could achieve stardom. Marconi, Arnett have a few years on them. Bull showed signs of returning to '63 form. Bivins and Piccolo fight for spot on loaded roster. RATING—EXCELLENT

KICKER

KICKER	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Comments
LeClerc, Roger	6-3	235	29	Trinity

FGs, 11 of 26. RATING—FAIR

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Comments
Atkins, Doug (E)	6-8	255	36	Tennessee
Evey, Dick (E)	6-4	225	25	Tennessee
Johnson, John (T)	6-5	260	25	Indiana
Jones, Stan (T)	6-1	250	34	Maryland
Kilcullen, Bob (T)	6-3	245	30	Texas Tech
Leggett, Earl (T)	6-3	265	33	L.S.U.
McRae, Franklin (T)	6-6	276	22	Tennessee State
O'Bradovich, Ed (E)	6-3	255	26	Illinois
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle			

If Atkins hadn't "unretired" in July, end jobs would have been filled by Evey and O'Bradovich. Evey made switch to defense last year. There's good depth at all positions. Johnson, Jones, Kilcullen and Leggett, veterans of 1963 champ club that throttled most offenses, return. McRae, high draft, has height and speed to make it. RATING—VERY GOOD

LINEBACKERS

LINEBACKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Comments
Buffone, Doug (O)	6-1	218	21	Louisville
Butkus, Dick (M)	6-3	240	22	Illinois
Fortunato, Joe (O)	6-1	225	35	Mississippi State
Morris, Larry (O)	6-2	225	31	Georgia Tech
Purnell, Jim (O)	6-2	205	24	Wisconsin
Reilly, Mike (O)	6-2	238	23	Iowa
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker			

Butkus is established star in sophomore year. His five interceptions led club and was record for Bear linebacker. Morris and Fortunato flank him. Purnell and Reilly give depth and Buffone's a most promising freshman, though a little light at 218. RATING—EXCELLENT

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Comments
Brown, Charlie (C)	6-1	193	23	Syracuse
Budka, Frank (C)	6-0	195	24	Notre Dame
Caroline, J. C. (S)	6-1	190	32	Illinois
Glueck, Larry (C)	6-0	190	24	Villanova
McRae, Bennie (C)	6-0	180	26	Michigan
Petitbon, Richie (S)	6-3	205	28	Tulane
Shannon, Carver (C)	6-0	206	28	So. Illinois
Taylor, Roosevelt (S)	5-11	186	29	Grambling
Whitsell, Dave (C)	6-1	190	30	Indiana
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety			

This group includes the same quartet that was so effective with the 1963 title team—McRae, Whitsell, Taylor, Petitbon. In addition Glueck, Shannon and Budka provide reserve, and Brown comes from college ranks with big reputation and tag of No. 2 draft choice. Bears' scouts rated him the best in the East at Syracuse. Caroline, up in years, has to fight for job this time around. RATING—EXCELLENT

Vince Lombardi drove the Packers to the 1965 NFL championship in the murk and freezing rain of Green Bay last January; Blanton Collier's Cleveland Browns made it into the title round a second straight year; Don Shula made it into the Western Conference playoff without a Colt quarterback; and Allie Sherman took a Giants' cellar club, which experts didn't see doing any better than repeating the two victories of the previous year, and tied for second in the East.

So who was named the 1965 Coach of the Year in the NFL?

George Halas, the incredible septuagenarian, that's who. His Bears finished third in the West, were a factor down to the final week, and produced the Rookie of the Year in Gale Sayers and the league's top passer in Rudy Bukich. Observers who had consigned the Bears to the junk heap when Billy Wade, the championship signal caller of '63 couldn't do it in the first few games, were flabbergasted.

Halas has been amazing the experts and non-experts ever since footballs were round and were inflated via a bicycle pump. It has always been a simple enough matter for him to provide the answers, since he wrote most of the questions.

Question: You are co-owner of a professional football club in the mid-Twenties, and you are also playing end. The other co-owner has taken himself out of the lineup and is slowly making his way toward the makeshift box office at the far end of the field. What do you do?

Answer: You get your tail out of the game as fast as you can and get over and check on what he's doing. Also examine the money belt he's wearing.

Question: An outstanding college prospect is apparently all wrapped up by Kansas City in the rival AFL, but he learns that he is being offered less than a player who hasn't quite made it was given three years earlier. What do you do?

Answer: You get on the phone as fast as you can and top the figure quoted. You are rewarded by acquiring the Rookie of the Year, Gale Sayers, who sets an NFL mark of 22 TDs and ties the league record of six in one game.

Question: Your scouts tell you that Dick Butkus, who is getting out of the University of Illinois almost a half-century after you did, is the best athlete among the nation's college football players and has left a string of busted bodies through the Big Ten to prove it. The young man also has some good advice on what to sign for. He says \$200,000 would be a tidy little package. What do you do?

Answer: Pay the \$200,000. The fellow is going to intercept five times in his first season and is going to win the middle linebacker job hands down, and in a manner that indicates he's going to be there for the next 10 years.

No further questions, except—will George Halas be the first 70-years-plus coach to win a title? If he was operating in the Eastern Conference, the inclination would be to offer a flat "Yes." In the West, tougher for some unfathomable reason (East and West are mixed up in the various scouting pools), the answer has to be "Maybe." Maybe he can do it in the West again before he passes on the torch.

In all departments on the accompanying chart the lowest rating is "good." His running backs are outstanding: Young Andy Livingston could turn out to be a game-busting fullback, Ronnie Bull's running in the last period of the 1963 playoff meant the title for the Bears. Sayers' 132 points makes him the fourth-highest single-season scorer in NFL history, topped only by a couple of efforts by Paul Hornung and one by Don Hutson, the pass-catching marvel of another era. Gale's TDs were spread thusly: rushing, 14; passing, six; punt return, one; kickoff return, one. Hey, George, how can you be so smart? □

In many departments, Chicago's Gale Sayers did better last year, as a rookie, than the great Jim Brown. His outside speed is amazing, and his ability to slither through traffic makes him an inside threat, too



WESTERN CONFERENCE

*The magic is out of Fran Tarkenton's scrambling, and
Norm Van Brocklin will be as frustrated as ever Prediction: Fifth*

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

1965 RECORD (7-7-0)

16	Baltimore	35
29	Detroit	31
38	Los Angeles	35
40	New York	14
37	Chicago	45
42	San Francisco	41
27	Cleveland	17
24	Los Angeles	13
21	Baltimore	41
13	Green Bay	38
24	San Francisco	45
19	Green Bay	24
29	Detroit	7
24	Chicago	17

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Cox	0	44	23	113
Mason	11	0	0	66
Brown	7	0	0	42
Flatley	7	0	0	42

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Brown	160	699	6	4.5
Mason	141	597	10	4.2
Tarkenton	56	356	1	6.4
King	72	356	0	4.9

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Tarkenton	329	171	2609	19	11	52.0
VanderKelen	40	18	252	2	0	45.0

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Flatley	50	896	7	17.9
Brown	41	503	1	12.3
Smith	22	431	5	19.5
Mason	22	321	1	14.5

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Sharockman	6	118	40	19.7
Jordan	4	45	18	11.2
Hawkins	3	68	35	22.8
Vargo	3	18	18	6.0

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Walden	51	2146	61	42.1

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Warwick	1	10	10	10.0
Mason	9	63	17	7.0

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Rentzel	23	602	101	26.2
Osborn	18	422	92	23.4
James	11	212	28	19.3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

*The magic is out of Fran Tarkenton's scrambling, and
Norm Van Brocklin will be as frustrated as ever Prediction: Fifth*

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Bedsole, Hal (T)	6-4	235	24	3	U.S.C.
Flatley, Paul (S)	6-1	187	25	4	Northwestern
Green, Ron (F)	6-1	200	22	1	North Dakota
Hall, Tom (F)	6-2	195	26	5	Minnesota
Meers, Bob (T)	6-3	225	23	1	Massachusetts
Phillips, Jim (F)	6-1	195	30	9	Auburn
Rentzel, Lance (S)	6-2	210	22	2	Oklahoma
(S)—Split end					(T)—Tight end
					(F)—Flanker

Comments

Gordy Smith's retirement leaves Bedsole the only vet tight end. Meers, No. 1 rookie, is definite prospect as backup. Flatley, leading TD receiver last year, has improved steadily since rookie-of-year break-in. Vet Phillips operates at flanker spot, but Green could push him here. RATING—FAIR

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Alderman, Grady (T)	6-2	240	27	7	Detroit
Bowie, Larry (G)	6-2	249	26	5	Purdue
Byers, Ken (G)	6-1	240	26	5	Cincinnati
Davis, Doug (T)	6-4	240	22	1	Kentucky
McClelland, Frank (T)	6-3	238	22	2	Alabama
Sunde, Milt (G)	6-2	234	23	3	Minnesota
Sutton, Archie (T)	6-4	265	23	2	Illinois
Tingelhoff, Mick (C)	6-1	237	26	5	Nebraska
(T)—Tackle					(G)—Guard
					(C)—Center

Tingelhoff continues to be top-rated in the league at center. Sunde, Bowie came on as first-rate guard combination last year. Alderman is the only vet remaining from original stocking pool of '61. Other tackle in '65, Errol Linden, went to Atlanta in expansion draft. Sutton has shot here. Archie was a college terror, but Butkus got the headlines. RATING—GOOD

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Berry, Bob	5-11	190	23	2	Oregon
Tarkenton, Fran	6-0	190	26	6	Georgia
VanderKelen, Ron	6-1	185	26	4	Wisconsin

The Scrambler ran for 356 yards, but Van Brocklin isn't impressed. VanderKelen intercepted once in two years. RATING—GOOD

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Brown, Bill (F)	5-11	230	28	6	Illinois
Lindsey, Jim (H)	6-3	205	21	1	Arkansas
Mason, Tommy (H)	6-1	196	27	6	Tulane
King, Phil (F)	6-4	220	30	9	Vanderbilt
Barnes, Billy (H)	6-1	198	31	9	Wake Forest
Osborn, Dave (H)	6-0	205	23	2	North Dakota
Young, Jim (H)	6-0	205	23	2	Queens (Ont.)
(F)—Fullback					(H)—Halfback

Brown and Mason are both among the league's top 10 rushers, but Tommy's very brittle. King and Barnes can do job on occasion but must be spotted. Lindsey, the No. 2 draft, has both the size and speed. Osborn and Young battle to stick in their sophomore season. They're about even. RATING—VERY GOOD

KICKERS

KICKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Cox, Fred	5-10	200	27	4	Pittsburgh
Walden, Bobby	6-0	195	27	3	Georgia

Cox was 23 for 35 in FGs. Walden's a fine punter. RATING—EXCELLENT

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Dickson, Paul (T)	6-5	255	29	8	Baylor
Eller, Carl (E)	6-6	270	23	3	Minnesota
Larsen, Gary (T)	6-5	250	26	3	Concordia
Marshall, Jim (E)	6-3	235	28	7	Ohio State
Shay, Jerry (T)	6-3	240	22	1	Purdue
Prestel, Jim (T)	6-5	275	29	7	Idaho
(E)—End					(T)—Tackle

There's an obvious need for pass rush to improve. Shay, No. 1 draft, will get full shot at tackle job. Eller dipped in sophomore year after approaching All-League as rookie. Marshall has his moments. Larsen came from Rams and managed to stick. RATING—POOR

LINEBACKERS

LINEBACKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Hawkins, Rip (M)	6-3	235	27	6	North Carolina
Hansen, Don (O)	6-3	226	22	1	Illinois
Kirby, John (O)	6-3	222	24	3	Nebraska
Warwick, Lon (M)	6-3	225	24	2	Tennessee Tech
Winston, Roy (O)	5-11	230	26	5	L.S.U.
(O)—Outside linebacker					(M)—Middle linebacker

Vikings were stunned when Hawkins said he might retire for law school. Rip's one of NFL's best. Warwick's a good backup. Winston does adequate job. Hope here is for Hansen's quickness to win job for him. RATING—FAIR

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Acks, Ron (S)	6-2	203	21	1	Illinois
Hall, Bob (S)	6-2	198	22	1	Brown
Jordan, Jeff (S)	6-4	190	22	2	Tulsa
Kassulke, Karl (S)	6-0	193	24	4	Drake
Quintana, Stan (S)	6-0	182	21	1	New Mexico
Rose, George (C)	5-11	190	23	3	Auburn
Sharockman, Ed (C)	6-0	200	26	5	Pittsburgh
Vargo, Larry (S)	6-3	215	27	5	Detroit
(C)—Corner back					(S)—Safety

Opposition hit for 31 TD passes last year, so need for improvement is obvious. Jordan emerged as key man in latter part of season. Vargo, Sharockman have plenty of experience, ditto Kassulke. Rose disappointed after a promising freshman year. Acks, Quintana, Hall, all first-year men, are rated a fair chance to break in. RATING—FAIR

A great many persons were disappointed by the Vikings' 1965 efforts, which resulted only in an eventual tie for fifth place in the West at break-even figures. Norm Van Brocklin, Minnesota's head man since the club was formed a half-dozen years ago, was one of the few who did something about it. He quit for 24 hours, then heeded the pleas of the front-office brass and returned. But his throwing in the sponge was genuine. He had been irritated beyond endurance. If any aspect of the picture proved more riling than the rest to the Dutchman it was probably the team's defense. There were 14 teams in the NFL last year; the Vikings finished first in giving up points, indicating that a drastic change must come here if they are to be rated future championship contenders.

There are a number of other factors to be considered if the Vikings are to figure in the title picture. Tommy Mason must enjoy a season of non-injury, Fran Tarkenton has to come through with a little faster delivery and mental mistakes must be eliminated in the defensive secondary. The ownership thinks that the Dutchman is the man to swing all this because they took his old contract last winter, shredded it and provided him with one for five additional years.

These years could be reasonably happy ones, says Van Brocklin, if Tarkenton changes his style just a bit. He is the game's No. 1 scrambler and after watching him for five seasons the Dutchman still isn't completely sold. "When he plants his foot and unloads in a hurry we're fine," he said. "When he floats, we sometimes have problems."

So have other players, and not necessarily on the Viking squad. During the Colts-Vikings game (the one that triggered Van Brocklin's sudden resignation), All-League guard Jim Parker of Baltimore said to his opposite number, Grady Alderman, "How do you keep up with that Tarkenton? He runs all over and you have to kill yourself getting there to block for him."

Alderman is the only survivor of the original draft that stocked the Minnesota franchise. He has learned a few things, one of them he passed along to Parker. "No I don't, Jim," he replied. "I just stand still and wait for Fran to come past again and then I throw another block."

Tarkenton has rushed for more than 300 yards in each of the last two seasons. Is he vulnerable to interceptions as he runs all over the place? In both seasons he has thrown TD passes in a two-to-one ratio to interceptions. That's about the same ratio as the league's best percentage performer, Rudy Bukich of the Bears, or the league's leading TD passer, John Brodie of the 49ers.

The Vikings have had Bill Brown and Mason among the league's first 10 rushers repeatedly. If Mason stays healthy he represents a double threat, as both runner and receiver. Brown is capable of achieving 1,000 yards in any given season. His best has been 866 in the 1964 campaign, and his durability is matched by his ability as a receiver, too.

The big pass catcher ever since his rookie year has been Paul Flatley, the split end. A flanker of commensurate skill would significantly enhance the Vikings' passing attack and unrinkle field boss Van Brocklin's brow a bit.

Minnesota's big drafts were shrewdly chosen. Topping the list were Jerry Shay, a Purdue tackle; Jim Lindsey, an Arkansas running back; and Don Hansen, an Illinois linebacker. Spotting the Vikings' big picks around the various departments indicates one of two things. Either Van Brocklin isn't completely satisfied with his personnel—and is any coach ever completely satisfied?—or he's looking ahead to the time when he might have to take the appropriate corrective action. The question is, if and when that time does come, what he will do—quit again, or give the offending player(s) a good, swift kick in the pants? □

Tommy Mason is one of the league's best running backs, but repeated injuries have hampered him. Minnesota's chances will get a significant boost if Mason can stay healthy and have the year he's capable of



WESTERN CONFERENCE

Too many question marks and outright weaknesses, and too much strength in the West sums up this club Prediction: Sixth

DETROIT LIONS

1965 RECORD (6-7-1)

20	Los Angeles	0
31	Minnesota	29
14	Washington	10
7	Baltimore	31
21	Green Bay	31
10	Chicago	38
31	Los Angeles	7
12	Green Bay	7
21	San Francisco	27
10	Chicago	17
24	Baltimore	24
14	San Francisco	17
7	Minnesota	29
35	Philadelphia	28

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Walker	0	33	8	57
Marsh	8	0	0	48
Looney	6	0	0	36
Studstill	3	0	0	18

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Marsh	131	495	6	3.8
Looney	114	356	5	3.1
Pietrosante	107	374	1	3.5
Watkins	29	95	0	3.3

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Plum	308	143	1710	12	19	46.4
Izo	59	24	357	2	6	40.6

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Studstill	28	389	3	13.9
Barr	24	433	3	18.0
Cogdill	20	247	0	12.4
Pietrosante	18	163	0	9.0

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
LeBeau	7	84	30	12.0
Rasmussen	5	122	50	24.4
Maher	4	76	35	19.0
Schmidt	4	42	14	10.5

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Studstill	78	3335	69	42.8

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Watkins	23	234	41	10.2
Studstill	5	47	17	9.4

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Watkins	17	584	94	34.3
Vaughn	13	316	41	24.3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Too many question marks and outright weaknesses, and too much strength in the West sums up this club Prediction: Sixth

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	Comments
Cogdill, Gail (S)	6-2	195	28	7	Washington State	Tight end is adequately covered by Kramer, ex-Packer, and Gibbons. Problem is to come up with another speedster of caliber of retired Terry Barr. Studstill was the club's leading receiver but caught only half as many as Terry did previous year. Malinchak is probably best of rookie prospects. Cogdill is set at split end position. RATING—GOOD
Gibbons, Jim (T)	6-3	220	29	9	Iowa	
Henderson, John (S)	6-3	190	22	2	Michigan	
Kramer, Ron (T)	6-3	240	30	9	Michigan	
Malinchak, Bill (F)	6-1	190	21	1	Indiana	
Robinson, John (F)	6-2	205	21	1	Tennessee State	
Studstill, Pat (F)	6-0	175	27	6	Houston	
Walker, Willie (F)	6-3	200	22	1	Tennessee State	
(S)—Split end	(T)—Tight end	(F)—Flanker				

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN						
Flanagan, Ed (C)	6-3	250	22	2	Purdue	
Gonzaga, John (G)	6-3	250	33	11	none	
Gordy, John (G)	6-4	250	30	9	Tennessee	
Karras, Ted (G)	6-1	245	32	9	Indiana	
Kowalski, Bob (G)	6-3	245	21	1	Virginia	
Rush, Jerry (T)	6-4	270	22	2	Michigan State	
Sanders, Daryl (T)	6-5	250	24	4	Ohio State	
Shoals, Roger (T)	6-4	255	27	4	Maryland	
Smith, J. D. (T)	6-5	250	29	7	Rice	
Van Horn, Doug (G)	6-2	245	21	1	Ohio State	
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center				

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS						
Plum, Milt	6-2	205	31	10	Penn State	
Izo, Gorge	6-3	218	28	7	Notre Dame	
Myers, Tom	6-0	188	22	2	Northwestern	
Sweetan, Karl	6-1	210	23	1	Wake Forest	

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS						
Feits, Bobby (H)	6-2	205	23	2	Florida A&M	
Looney, Joe Don (H)	6-2	230	23	3	Oklahoma	
Marsh, Amos (F)	6-0	220	26	6	Oregon State	
McLenna, Bruce (F)	6-3	225	23	1	Hillsdale	
Nowatzke, Tom (F)	6-3	233	23	2	Indiana	
Pietrosante, Nick (F)	6-2	225	28	8	Notre Dame	
Watkins, Tom (H)	6-0	195	28	6	Iowa State	
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback					

KICKER

KICKER						
Walker, Wayne	6-2	225	28	9	Idaho	

Walker made eight of 22. RATING—FAIR

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN						
Brown, Roger (T)	6-5	300	28	7	Maryland State	
Dunlap, Ralph (E)	6-4	250	22	1	Baylor	
Hand, Larry (E)	6-4	245	25	2	Appalachian State	
Karras, Alex (T)	6-2	245	30	8	Iowa	
McCord, Darris (E)	6-4	250	33	12	Tennessee	
Pennie, Frank (E)	6-5	250	22	1	Florida State	
Sullivan, Bill (E)	6-4	220	21	1	West Virginia	
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle					

LINEBACKERS

LINEBACKERS						
Bettridge, Ed (M)	6-1	235	24	1	Bowling Green	
Clark, Ernie (O)	6-1	220	28	4	Michigan State	
Cody, Bill (O)	6-1	220	21	1	Auburn	
Hilgenberg, Wally (M)	6-3	225	23	3	Iowa	
Lucci, Mike (O)	6-2	230	26	5	Tennessee	
O'Billovich, Jack (M)	6-0	225	23	1	Oregon State	
Walker, Wayne (O)	6-2	225	28	9	Idaho	
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker					

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS						
Brigham, Tom (C)	6-1	200	22	1	Wisconsin	
LeBeau, Dick (C)	6-1	185	28	8	Ohio State	
Maher, Bruce (S)	5-11	190	27	7	Detroit	
Odom, Sonny (S)	6-1	190	22	1	Duke	
Pincavage, John (C)	5-11	180	21	1	Virginia	
Rasmussen, Wayne (S)	6-2	180	23	3	S. Dakota State	
Thompson, Bobby (C)	5-10	175	26	3	Arizona	
Vaughn, Tom (S)	5-11	195	23	2	Iowa State	
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety					

Lohs usually acquit themselves quite well on pass defense. LeBeau and Thompson, Rasmussen and Maher shape up as starting foursome. This is change from '65, when Yale Lary and "Night Train" Lane retired. Vaughn is back after strong rookie year. Brigham is Big Ten hotshot. Odom, Pincavage are first-year contenders for job. RATING—GOOD

Understatement of the year, NFL division, has to be Harry Gilmer's plaintive observation, "I'm glad that my first year as a head coach is behind me." Few head coaches, with or without a cowboy hat, have ever been buffeted about like this one-time quarterback.

Gilmer made a sour deal, handing over Earl Morrall to the Giants, then ran into a string of harrowing injuries, one of which made up the mind of gifted Terry Barr to let someone else try catching passes. The coach looked the other way at some of Joe Don Looney's shenanigans, hoping his bull-like running would make up for his eccentric behavior. He saw his club as the obvious target for the first attempts at unionizing players by Jimmy Hoffa's Teamsters Union ("Now see here coach, you're not going to play that dues-paying member of our union on a bad leg, are you?"). And he also had to fine one of his star performers, Gail Cogdill, for off-season remarks, later denied, to the effect that "Gilmer doesn't know how to handle men and he's not ready for a coaching job." Yes, it was a rough debut. But what's in store for year No. 2?

The answer is—not a great deal of improvement unless Detroit can come up with the big runner it has been looking for ever since Nick Pietrosante had a couple of 800-yard seasons. Nick is still around, but he can't do it anymore. Neither, apparently, can the current coterie of runners, ranging from Amos Marsh, a pickup from the Cowboys, to Looney, who came out of a Green Bay game in mid-season with a headache that lasted until Christmas.

Gilmer, who played in the big leagues for a decade, subscribes to the philosophy of picking your quarterback and going with him. This is fine where one particular passer's mastery is clearly evident. When it becomes a matter of grays, rather than blacks and whites, though, there is room for an error in judgment. In Detroit last August it was up to Gilmer to decide which quarterback he'd let the Giants have in a trade

—Milt Plum or Earl Morrall. The Giants, desperate, would have taken either. They got Morrall and a month later Gilmer was making another trade—for George Izo, Washington's second-string quarterback.

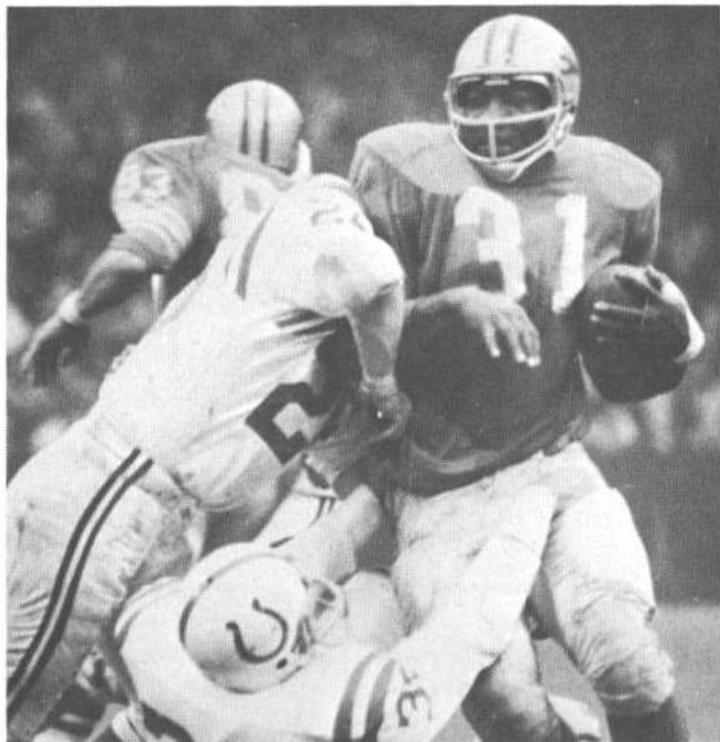
There are bright spots in the Detroit picture, however. Detroit's defense was No. 1 in the league last year, and it is still pretty much intact in the form of All-Pro tackles Alex Karras and Roger Brown. A replacement will have to be found in the middle for linebacker Joe Schmidt, many times All Pro, who has moved into a coaching role, and it could be a little while before the replacements arrive for Yale Lary and "Night Train" Lane in the defensive backfield.

Lane moves into the ticket and promotion department of the ball club, incidentally. Any irate customers are hereby warned that, whenever arguing with old Night Train about his ticket locations, they'd better not stick their heads through the window to emphasize a particular point.

Detroit, in the past few seasons, has made a specialty of losing the close ones. The Lions exchanged an almost certain victory for a tie in the big Thanksgiving Day game with the Colts last year, when they just plain forgot to call for a free kick that undoubtedly would have meant a game-winning field goal.

The big hope for Detroit in '66 is that a heavy influx of rookies will make it. This will have two effects: It will help in the overall performance, naturally, but it will also cause the veteran performers to revise their thinking. Last winter a group got together and suggested to management that in view of the unprecedented bonuses being given the new kids to sign, how about sweetening up the contracts of the vets to the tune of \$300,000? After all, it's only money, isn't it? It's a good point, even if the Lions point to the sub-.500 figures of '65 and demand, "How about THAT?" The only thing that can squelch this kind of demand is for three or four key kids to make it. □

Amos Marsh, trying to fight off two Colt tacklers, was a pleasant surprise for the Lions last year. He came from Dallas with not too much expected of him, but led the Detroit club in ground gaining



WESTERN CONFERENCE

A new coach can't make enough difference, though this club has some good vets and some raw talent Prediction: Seventh

LOS ANGELES RAMS

1965 RECORD (4-10-0)

0	Detroit	20
30	Chicago	28
35	Minnesota	38
6	Chicago	31
21	San Francisco	45
20	Baltimore	35
7	Detroit	31
13	Minnesota	24
3	Green Bay	6
27	San Francisco	30
21	Green Bay	10
27	St. Louis	3
42	Cleveland	7
17	Baltimore	20

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Gossett	0	30	15	75
McDonald	9	0	0	54
Bass	4	0	0	24
McKeever	4	0	0	24

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Bass	121	549	2	4.53
Josephson	72	225	0	3.12
Wilson	60	189	1	3.15
Munson	26	157	1	6.03

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Munson	267	144	1701	10	14	53.9
Gabriel	173	83	1321	11	5	47.9

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
McDonald	67	1036	9	15.5
McKeever	44	542	4	12.3
Snow	38	559	3	14.7
Baker	22	210	2	9.5

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Martin	2	60	37	30.0
Meador	2	57	29	28.5
McIlhany	2	7	7	3.5
Lamson	2	0	0	0.0

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Lothridge	42	1619	55	38.5
Kilgore	24	999	56	41.6

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Stiger	13	106	22	8.1
Brown	9	63	15	7.0
Smith	9	56	19	6.2

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Brown	24	615	52	25.6
Smith	17	457	56	26.9
Williams	9	213	31	23.7

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	Comments
McKeever, Marlin (T)	6-1	225	26	6	U.S.C.	
Truax, Billy (T)	6-5	240	23	3	L.S.U.	
Pope, Bucky (F)	6-5	200	25	3	Catawba	
Snow, Jack (S)	6-2	210	23	2	Notre Dame	
McDonald, Tom (F)	5-9	180	33	10	Oklahoma	
Heckard, Steve (S)	6-3	190	23	2	Davidson	
(S)—Split End						
(T)—Tight End						
(F)—Flanker						

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	Comments
Carollo, Joe (T)	6-2	263	26	5	Notre Dame	
Cowan, Charles (T)	6-4	270	28	6	N.M. Highlands	
Scibelli, Joe (G)	6-0	255	27	6	Notre Dame	
Chuy, Don (G)	6-1	256	25	4	Clemson	
Iman, Ken (C)	6-1	235	27	6	S.E. Missouri	
Wendryhoski, Joe (C)	6-2	245	28	3	Illinois	
Mack, Tom (G-T)	6-3	245	22	1	Michigan	
(T)—Tackle						
(G)—Guard						
(C)—Center						

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	Comments
Gabriel, Roman	6-4	225	26	5	N.C. State	
Munson, Bill	6-2	197	25	3	Utah State	
Anderson, Bill	6-2	182	24	1	Tulsa	

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	Comments
Bass, Dick (H)	5-10	205	29	7	U. of Pacific	
Josephson, Les (F)	6-0	215	24	3	Augustana	
Moore, Tom (H)	6-2	210	28	7	Vanderbilt	
Baker, Terry (H)	6-3	210	25	4	Oregon State	
Wilson, Ben (F)	6-0	225	26	4	U.S.C.	
Dennis, Mike (H)	6-2	210	22	1	Mississippi	
Dyer, Henry (F)	6-2	225	21	1	Grambling	
(F)—Fullback						
(H)—Halfback						

KICKERS

KICKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	Comments
Gossett, Bruce	6-2	220	26	3	Richmond	
Kilgore, Jon	6-1	185	22	2	Auburn	

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	Comments
Jones, Dave (E)	6-5	251	27	6	S. Carolina State	
Lundy, Lamar (E)	6-7	265	31	10	Purdue	
Olsen, Merlin (T)	6-5	270	25	5	Utah State	
Grier, Roosevelt (T)	6-5	290	34	11	Penn State	
Scott, Billy Ray (E)	6-3	235	24	1	NE Oklahoma	
Gilbert, Dan (E)	6-4	240	23	1	Arkansas Tech	
(E)—End						
(T)—Tackle						

LINEBACKERS

LINEBACKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	Comments
Baughan, Maxie (O)	6-1	227	28	7	Georgia Tech	
Guillory, Tony (O)	6-4	220	23	2	Lamar Tech	
Woodlief, Doug (M)	6-3	235	23	2	Memphis State	
Currie, Dan (O)	6-3	235	31	9	Michigan State	
Livingston, Cliff (O)	6-3	212	36	13	U.C.L.A.	
Pardee, Jack (O)	6-2	225	29	9	Texas A&M	
(O)—Outside Linebacker						
(M)—Middle Linebacker						

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	Comments
Meador, Ed (S)	5-11	197	29	8	Arkansas Tech	
Lamson, Chuck (S)	6-0	190	27	5	Wyoming	
Williams, Clarence (C)	6-2	198	23	2	Washington State	
McIlhany, Dan (C)	6-0	195	23	2	Texas A&M	
Youngblood, George (S)	6-3	200	21	1	Cal State (L.A.)	
Hoover, Darrell (S)	6-2	203	22	1	Arizona State	
Cross, Irv (C)	6-1	195	27	6	Northwestern	
(C)—Corner Back						
(S)—Safety						

Books sometimes seem a little out of place in Hollywood, but when George Allen packed for the move from Chicago he figured he'd take his along anyway, together with an impressive collection of sport coats. Four of the books happened to be written by Allen. The philosophy of the Rams' head coach on authorship is, "I don't make any money writing books, but frequently an author can learn more from his own books than anyone else who reads them."

The books are on Allen's favorite topic, football, and many of the various texts concern themselves with his favorite sub-topic, defense. Allen, who took over that department for the Bears in mid-1962 when Clark Shaughnessy quit on George Halas, is generally credited with setting up the rock-ribbed defense that brought the Bears their first National Football League title in a couple of decades.

In fact, Allen made such an impression on Papa Bear George that when he told Halas he was leaving for a head-coach's job, Halas put him through a trying court case before magnanimously saying that Allen could leave. All Halas had wanted to do was prove in court, once and for all, the validity of a professional football contract.

Now Allen can show that he has the ability to mold a winner where the last couple of incumbents failed. The Rams haven't made it above .500 in won-lost figures since 1958. They last triumphed in the rough, tough West in 1955, and last presented the inhabitants of Cinderella Land with an NFL championship in 1951, the year that the league operated under the shadow of both Bob Waterfield's and Norm Van Brocklin's throwing arms.

One of several problems confronting Allen in his freshman year will be the selection of his quarterback. Big Roman Gabriel is in his fifth season, and Bill Munson's in his third. Munson had the job for the first 10 games of 1965, then suffered a disabling knee

injury. Gabriel finished up and won three of his four starts. He beat both Green Bay and Cleveland, ultimate antagonists in the NFL playoff. Against Cleveland, in the rain, he threw five TD passes, tying the club record established by Waterfield and Van Brocklin. It should be noted, however, that the Browns had already clinched in the East by that time.

Actually, the Rams have the ingredients to deliver a contender, with a break or two. Supposing Tom Moore, considered expendable by Green Bay, makes it as a 500-yard performer? (He's been there before.) That could take some of the murderous pressure off Dick Bass, the Rams' leading rusher last year despite numerous ailments. And it would give the Rams some kind of balance. Bass, incidentally, has less than 300 yards to go to become L.A.'s leading all-time rusher in his seventh campaign.

Or take the receiving corps, where Tommy McDonald made a comeback last year to achieve runner-up honors in the league. McDonald carried most of the load when rookie star Bucky Pope was lost for the entire season. Pope had tied for NFL leadership with 10 TD passes in 1964, his freshman year. Put the two together at peak efficiency and there'd be a lot of worried looks among the remainder of the Western Conference's defensive secondaries.

Allen has also made a couple of significant moves in shoring up the defense. He convinced Jack Pardee to make a comeback and he acquired Maxie Baughan from Philadelphia, where Maxie had stopped seeing eye-to-eye with the management. That should give the linebacking a lift. Baughan is one of the good ones.

With his front four, Allen won't have to do much more than point them in the general direction of the opposition and say, "They're yours." David Jones and Merl Olsen are Pro Bowlers and Lamar Lundy and Roosevelt Grier constitute 550 pounds of amazingly fast bad news. □

Quarterback Bill Munson (19) pitches out to Dick Bass to start a wide running play. Les Josephson (34) has just faked taking the handoff and now he heads into the line to make way for his hard-running teammate



EASTERN CONFERENCE

*The great Jimmy is gone; but this club has the desire
and cohesiveness to go all the way again Prediction: First*

CLEVELAND BROWNS

1965 RECORD (11-3-0)

17	Washington	7
13	St. Louis	49
35	Philadelphia	7
24	Pittsburgh	19
23	Dallas	17
38	New York	14
17	Minnesota	27
38	Philadelphia	34
34	New York	21
24	Dallas	17
42	Pittsburgh	21
24	Washington	16
7	Los Angeles	42
27	St. Louis	24

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Brown	21	0	0	126
Groza	0	45	16	93
Collins	10	0	0	60
Roberts	4	0	0	24

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Brown	289	1544	17	5.3
Green	111	436	2	3.9
Kelly	37	139	0	3.8
Ryan	19	72	0	3.8

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds.	TDs	Ints	Pct
Ryan	243	119	1751	18	13	49.0
Ninowski	83	40	549	4	3	48.0

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds.	TDs	Avg
Collins	50	884	10	17.7
Brown	34	328	4	9.4
Green	25	298	2	11.9
Roberts	16	314	4	19.6

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Benz	5	78	31	15.6
Fichtner	4	98	48	24.5
Parrish	4	45	35	11.2
Costello	3	33	23	11.0

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Collins	65	3035	71	46.7

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Kelly	17	265	67	15.6
Roberts	18	162	51	9.0

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Roberts	18	493	88	27.4
Kelly	24	621	51	25.9

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Brewer, Johnny (T)	6-4	235	29	6	Mississippi
Morin, Milt (T)	6-4	250	23	1	Massachusetts
Collins, Gary (F)	6-4	208	25	5	Maryland
McNeil, Clifton (F)	6-2	185	26	3	Grambling
Roberts, Walt (F)	5-10	165	24	3	San Jose State
Warfield, Paul (S)	6-0	188	23	3	Ohio State
Hutchinson, Tom (S)	6-1	190	25	4	Kentucky
(S)—Split end	(T)—Tight end				(F)—Flanker

Comments

Collins continues one of league's best receivers. Warfield never recovered from College All Star game injury, caught three passes at season's end. Roberts was his backup. Veteran tight end Brewer gets push from Browns' No. 1 draft pick, Morin, who didn't get national notice in college. **RATING—VERY GOOD**

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Schafrath, Dick (T)	6-3	255	29	8	Ohio State
Brown, John (T)	6-2	248	27	5	Syracuse
Clark, Monte (T)	6-6	265	29	8	Southern California
Hickerson, Gene (G)	6-3	248	31	9	Mississippi
Wooten, John (G)	6-3	250	29	8	Colorado
Morrow, John (C)	6-3	248	33	10	Michigan
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard				(C)—Center

There's lots of experience here without age slowing 'em down yet. Schafrath, one of best in '64, was hurt at season's end. Brown recovered from bad knee in '64. Morrow gives line stability. Ryan's protection from this group as good as any. **RATING—EXCELLENT**

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Ryan, Frank	6-3	200	30	9	Rice
Ninowski, Jim	6-1	207	30	9	Michigan
Lane, Gary	6-1	210	23	1	Missouri

Ryan, bothered by foot injury, dipped to 18 TD passes. Ninowski is good backup. Lane is highly rated. **RATING—VERY GOOD**

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Green, Ernie (H)	6-2	205	27	5	Louisville
Kelly, Leroy (H)	6-0	195	24	3	Morgan State
Harraway, Charley (F)	6-3	230	22	1	San Jose State
Schultz, Randie (H)	5-11	210	22	1	Iowa State
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

Jim Brown's retirement has to hurt; he was the perfect ball carrier. Green continues to improve. Kelly has made a place for himself. Rookies will get a long look. **RATING—FAIR**

KICKER

KICKER	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Groza, Lou	6-3	250	42	20	Ohio State

Still going strong. **RATING—EXCELLENT**

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Glass, Bill (E)	6-5	255	30	9	Baylor
Wiggin, Paul (E)	6-3	245	31	10	Stanford
Garcia, Jim (E)	6-4	240	22	2	Purdue
Kanicki, Jim (T)	6-4	270	25	4	Michigan State
Parker, Frank (T)	6-5	270	26	4	Oklahoma State
Johnson, Walter (T)	6-3	265	22	2	L.A. State
Modzelewski, Dick (T)	6-0	260	35	14	Maryland
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle				

Modzelewski could be losing a step and much depends on Parker's comeback from knee surgery after missing entire season. Kanicki is now established and Johnson will see more action this year. Glass and Wiggin can do it at ends. Garcia was a disappointment last year with illness and injuries. **RATING—VERY GOOD**

LINEBACKERS

LINEBACKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Costello, Vince (M)	6-0	228	33	10	Ohio University
Fiss, Galen (O)	6-0	227	35	11	Kansas
Houston, Jim (O)	6-3	240	28	7	Ohio State
Szcurek, Stan (O)	5-11	230	27	4	Purdue
Williams, Sid (O)	6-2	235	24	3	Southern University
Lindsey, Dale (M)	6-3	220	23	2	Western Kentucky
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker				

Fiss, Costello and Houston know all the answers. Szcurek stuck with club after making team during injury period previous season. Williams was capable fill-in last year. Lindsey, a top prospect, is rated a possibility at middle spot. **RATING—VERY GOOD**

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Parrish, Bernie (C)	5-11	195	29	8	Florida
Beach, Walter (C)	6-0	185	31	4	Central Mich.
Barnes, Erich (C)	6-3	198	31	9	Purdue
Fichtner, Ross (S)	6-0	185	27	7	Purdue
Howell, Mike (S)	6-1	187	22	2	Grambling
Cordill, Olie (S)	6-2	186	22	1	Memphis State
Kellermann, Ernie (S)	6-0	183	22	1	Miami (O.)
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety				

Bigest problem on club is here. Defensive secondary lacked height and speed last year. Larry Benz and Bobby Franklin went to Atlanta in expansion pool, so this group will have new look. Parrish and Beach have plenty savvy, Barnes could be losing a step. Rookies get big chance. **RATING—FAIR**

The inevitable tendency, in discussing the Browns, is to start by saying "Jim Brown is gone . . ." and proceed from there. The Browns, however, were an awesome football machine in the early '50s, when Brown was only a teenager reading about the six straight Eastern Conference triumphs of the Clevelanders. And there is no reason to expect the club to disintegrate following his retirement. The team has too much else going for it, and—just as important—there is no other outfit in the East that is quite ready to hurdle Blanton Collier's men.

Pride, balance, a team that has worked together for a long time—all of these are very much in evidence when you examine the Cleveland personnel. So who is to say that the club won't be the first since the New York Giants of '61-'63 to make the title playoff three times in a row as the East's representative? And the Clevelanders have a bit of added incentive this year—in addition to having the chance to prove they can do it without Jimmy: From the NFL championship game, the winning club goes on to play the AFL titleholders. And the winner of that will proudly be known as the masters of the pro grid sport.

Cleveland's squad is an all-veteran one, and is as sound as any. Frank Ryan gets the pass protection that he requires, and the receivers have the benefit of the strong running game for additional pressure on the defense. Paul Warfield, recovered from the broken collarbone he suffered a year ago in the Chicago All Star game, is back to team with Gary Collins to make a deadly one-two receiving combination.

There are other interesting tidbits in the Browns picture. Tackle Dick Modzelewski, now in his 14th campaign, could break the NFL consecutive-games record. He had 166 going in; the old mark, 174, belongs to Leo Nomellini of the 49ers. Mo has played with four clubs—Washington, Pittsburgh, New York and the Browns. He was obtained from the Giants for

insurance, but a lucky (for him) break—in the form of a first-game injury to Frank Parker—enabled him to keep his decade-plus string going in 1964 and 1965 at his defensive post.

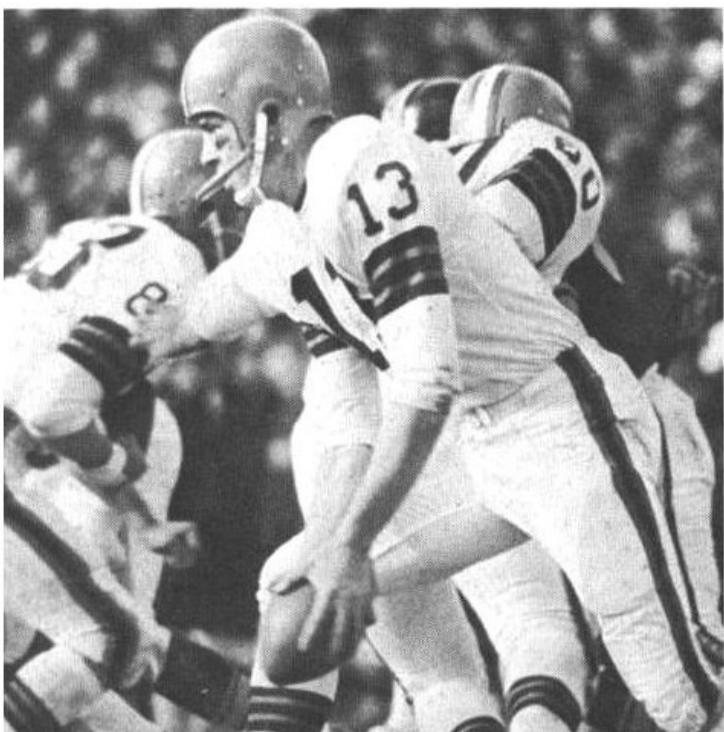
Then there is the bid by Archie Roberts, who was originally obtained as insurance against the time Frank Ryan couldn't do it any more. Archie came out of Columbia as one of the finest Ivy League quarterbacks since Sid Luckman. The Browns' deal to get him included a medical school education not only for him, but for his wife. They do things like that in football. Archie could have sat out his education, watching on Sundays from the bench. Instead, he popped the astounding news to the management last spring: His marks were so good that the dean thought he could carry his imposing academic load and play ball too. At least he thought Archie could give it a try. The dean was noted wearing a small "Let's Go, Browns" button at the time.

Warfield, a local favorite (he's Ohio State and from Warren, just down the road), is counted upon heavily in any Brown bid. As a rookie he caused the most first-year excitement since Jim Brown arrived in '57. He caught 52 passes and nine TDs. Only one Brown receiver, Mac Speedie, ever caught more in a single season.

Another local favorite, playing in his 20th campaign, is Lou Groza, who holds a half-dozen NFL scoring records. Groza goes back to the days of the All-America Football Conference, which was dominated by the Browns in the four years of its existence. He has lost a bit of range, but none of his accuracy.

The super-publicity stunt for Browns' boss Arthur Modell would involve convincing Groza to keep playing another year or two. Then he could point him out to some young twerp on the way up and say, "See that guy kicking for us? He was playing big-league pro football before you were born." □

Frank Ryan's talents—he's handing off here—were often taken for granted because he played in the shadow of the great Jim Brown. But this year he'll have the chance to show his value to the veteran Cleveland club



EASTERN CONFERENCE

Tom Landry makes progress more slowly than his fans like, but it's time now to mount a solid effort Prediction: Second

DALLAS COWBOYS

1965 RECORD (7-7-0)

31	New York	2
27	Washington	7
9	St. Louis	20
24	Philadelphia	35
17	Cleveland	23
3	Green Bay	13
13	Pittsburgh	22
39	San Francisco	31
24	Pittsburgh	17
17	Cleveland	24
31	Washington	34
21	Philadelphia	19
27	St. Louis	13
38	New York	20

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Villanueva	0	37	16	85
Hayes	13	0	0	78
Clarke	4	0	0	24
Dunn	3	0	0	18
Norman	3	0	0	18
Reeves	3	0	0	18
Smith	3	0	0	18

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Perkins	177	690	0	3.9
Smith	86	295	2	3.4
Meredith	36	247	1	6.9
Dunn	54	171	2	3.2

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Meredith	305	141	2415	22	13	46.2
Morton	34	17	173	2	4	50.0
Rhome	21	9	157	1	1	42.9

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Hayes	46	1003	12	21.8
Clarke	41	682	4	16.6
Dial	17	283	1	16.7
Gent	16	233	2	14.6

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Green	3	49	43	16.3
Livingston	3	5	5	1.7
Logan	3	5	3	1.7

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Villanueva	60	2505	58	41.8
Ridgway	13	510	44	39.2

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Hayes	12	153	47	12.8
Renfro	24	145	35	6.0

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Renfro	21	630	100	30.0
Hayes	17	450	60	26.5

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Tom Landry makes progress more slowly than his fans like, but it's time now to mount a solid effort Prediction: Second

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Clarke, Frank (S)	6-1	210	32	10	Colorado
Dial, Buddy (F)	6-1	195	29	8	Rice
Norman, Pettis (T)	6-3	220	27	5	J.C. Smith
Hayes, Bob (F)	6-0	189	23	2	Florida A&M
Gent, Pete (S)	6-4	210	24	3	Michigan State
(S)—Split End	(T)—Tight End	(F)—Flanker			

Comments

Hayes was sensational in rookie year with league-tying 12 TD receptions. Clarke is in 10th year but shows no sign of slowing. Norman does job at tight end. Gent and Dial are backups in both wide spots. RATING—EXCELLENT

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Isbell, Joe Bob (G)	6-1	250	26	5	Houston
Connelly, Mike (G)	6-3	248	30	7	Utah State
Manders, Dave (C)	6-2	240	25	3	Michigan State
Kupp, Jake (G)	6-3	240	25	3	Washington
Liscio, Tony (T)	6-5	264	26	4	Tulsa
Boeke, Jim (T)	6-5	255	27	7	Heidelberg
Niland, John (G)	6-4	250	22	1	Iowa
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center			

This department gave trouble to Dallas for several seasons, but could become cohesive unit this year. Liscio is back at tackle, but Ralph Neely's loss to Houston will hurt—if it sticks. Isbell, Connelly, Kupp vie for guard roles with Niland, club's No. 1 draft. Manders can do the job at center. RATING—GOOD

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Meredith, Don	6-3	203	28	7	S.M.U.
Morton, Craig	6-6	216	23	2	California
Rhome, Jerry	6-0	187	24	2	Tulsa

Meredith survived knee surgery and had 22 TD passes last year after slow start. Morton and Rhome are fine backups. RATING—FAIR

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Perkins, Don (F)	5-10	206	28	6	New Mexico
Smith, J. D. (F)	6-1	210	34	11	North Carolina
Reeves, Dan (H)	6-1	203	22	2	South Carolina
Sidle, Jimmy (F)	6-3	215	23	1	Auburn
Whitfield, A. D. (H)	5-10	200	22	2	North Texas State
Garrison, Walt (H)	6-0	200	22	1	Oklahoma State
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

Perkins still needs big man alongside to share load. J. D. Smith is up there in years, Reeves wasn't used very much last year. Sidle, running-mate of Tucker Frederickson at Auburn, out last year with injury. Mel Renfro may get a look if there is no trade. RATING—FAIR

KICKER

KICKER	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Villanueva, Danny	5-11	200	28	7	New Mex. State

Danny gets job done. RATING—GOOD

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Lilly, Bob (T)	6-5	255	27	6	Texas Christian
Colvin, Jim (T)	6-2	252	28	7	Houston
Andrie, George (E)	6-7	252	26	5	Marquette
Stephens, Larry (E)	6-3	252	27	7	Texas
Townes, Willie (T)	6-5	265	23	1	Tulsa
Pugh, Jethro (E)	6-6	250	22	2	Elizabeth City
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle				

Stephens and Pugh battle it out for end job vacated by Maury Yeomans, who went to Atlanta. Lilly is All-League at tackle, Andrie's a stickout at end. Townes is expected backup for Colvin at other tackle. One of Cowboys' strong points. RATING—EXCELLENT

LINEBACKERS

LINEBACKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Tubbs, Jerry (M)	6-2	222	31	10	Oklahoma
Jordan, Lee Roy (O-M)	6-2	227	25	4	Alabama
Howley, Chuck (O)	6-2	239	30	8	West Virginia
Edwards, Dave (O)	6-1	230	26	4	Auburn
Hays, Harold (O)	6-2	229	27	4	Southern Miss.
Way, Russell (O)	6-4	235	22	1	Rice
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker				

Tubbs keeps talking retirement, but tough, balding vet keeps coming back for more. If he finally quits, Lee Roy Jordan gets job in middle. Howley, Edwards, Hays battle for outside spots. Way's size, speed and college reputation are impressive. RATING—VERY GOOD

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Green, Cornell (C)	6-3	216	26	5	Utah State
Renfro, Mel (S)	6-0	206	24	3	Oregon
Gaechter, Mike (S)	6-0	194	26	5	Oregon
Bishop, Don (C)	6-1	223	32	8	L.A. City College
Livingston, Warren (C)	5-10	192	28	6	Arizona
Logan, Obert (S)	5-10	180	24	2	Trinity (Texas)
Gremminger, Hank (S)	6-1	200	32	11	Baylor
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety				

Obert won job as rookie despite size. Other safety, Renfro, ranks with best. Bishop's starting to show signs of maturity and will battle Livingston for one corner job. Green has other wrapped up. Gaechter's been a handy fill-in for a couple of years. Gramminger is a seasoned pro. RATING—GOOD

Is this to be the year of the Big Cowboy? Can the momentum of a second-place tie in the East, the result of having won five of its last seven, propel Dallas to its first title? And will a major strategem planned by Tom Landry, the Cowboys' high-domed impresario, play a vital role?

Dallas has been Landry's only head coaching assignment, and Landry has been Dallas' only head coach. In the early days of his tenure he sought to control the game completely from the sideline, alternating quarterbacks Eddie LeBaron and Don Meredith, and switching on every play. After LeBaron's retirement he went with Meredith as his number one. Then last year he installed the rollout pass, a sharp break with the standard pro setup of passing from the protection of the pocket. The success of the experiment was marked; the Cowboys ultimately averaged 70 yards more per game in over-all offense. The rollout may not be here to stay, but it sure is going to get a big look this year.

Landry thinks that the rollout offense will increase the effectiveness of the Cowboy personnel, apparently ignoring the strain it places on the interior linemen attempting to pass block. "The ideal NFL offense," he says, "is pocket passing and a running game built around two big, good backs. We have good backs but they aren't big."

Dallas' efforts to improve its outside running game didn't get anyplace last year, because there was no speedy back to complement Don Perkins, who worked both inside and outside.

The biggest man among the runners this year is Jimmy Sidle, who was Tucker Frederickson's running mate at Auburn two years ago. Sidle, still a rookie, is a sound 215 after laying off a year with an injury.

But Landry is proceeding on the assumption the running game will be no better than last year, hence the rollout. "We noticed," he said, "when Meredith rolled wide to throw during the last half of the season the

defense adjusted just as it would if we were throwing a wide-running threat at it. If it widens just a bit, it might be enough to open up the middle a little."

The rollout game has its drawbacks. The curtain of blockers normally expected must of necessity disperse, leaving the quarterback only one blocker and making him a lot more vulnerable to the pursuit. Meredith survived this style of play without too much punishment last year.

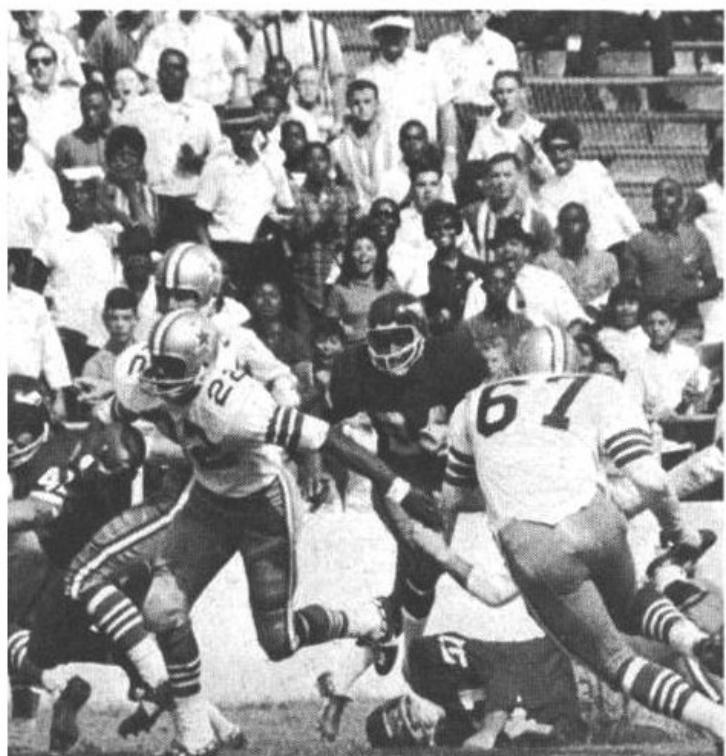
The year before he was hobbled by all sorts of injuries, ranging from a knee to a torn stomach muscle. He's a big fellow, with desire, and last year's 22 touch-downs was his best figure to date. But how much additional banging around can Don take?

The Cowboys are well supplied with quarterbacks. Jerry Rhome and Craig Morton are both sophomores. Rhome, who comes from Tulsa, is used to the rollout style of offense but Morton was strictly a pocket passer at California. In fact, any efforts on his part to run with the ball were frowned upon back in his college days.

The best man for the new job, if he could be sent back to college to learn quarterbacking, would be the Cowboys' rookie pass-catching sensation, Bob Hayes. Given a half-step, there is no one in the NFL capable of catching him. Hayes' role, however, is that of a pass receiver, one he filled to the tune of a dozen TD receptions last year. So that's where he stays, a threat hanging over the opposition's head right down to the final gun.

Whether the rollout is slated for modification or elimination will be determined by the events of the '66 campaign. With it Landry took the Cowboys further than ever before. If the opposition catches up with it he can always change. If they don't, the customers won't freeze to death at the Cowboys' first hometown playoff. Chances are you can get away with just a sport jacket in Dallas on New Year's Day. □

One of the flashiest stars to enter the pro ranks last year was Dallas' Bob Hayes (22). Here he's moving past his blockers and stepping into the open—where nobody stands a chance to catch him



EASTERN CONFERENCE

This campaign will be a bit of a backward step for the Maramen. Last year the team tied for second Prediction: Third

NEW YORK GIANTS

1965 RECORD (7-7-0)

2	Dallas	31
16	Philadelphia	14
23	Pittsburgh	13
14	Minnesota	40
35	Philadelphia	27
14	Cleveland	38
14	St. Louis	10
7	Washington	23
21	Cleveland	34
28	St. Louis	15
14	Chicago	35
35	Pittsburgh	10
27	Washington	10
20	Dallas	38

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Frederickson	6	0	0	36
Jones	6	0	0	36
Morrison	5	0	0	30
Thomas	5	0	0	30
Thurlow	5	0	0	30

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Frederickson	195	659	5	3.8
Thurlow	106	440	4	4.2
Koy	35	174	0	5.0
Wheelwright	24	96	0	4.0

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Morrall	302	155	2446	22	12	51.3
Wood	36	15	190	1	2	41.7

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Morrison	41	574	4	14.0
Thomas	27	631	5	23.4
Jones	26	709	6	27.3
Frederickson	24	177	1	7.4

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Lockhart	4	117	39	29.2
Lynch	4	38	23	9.5
Hillebrand	2	25	25	12.5
Carr	2	19	19	9.5

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Lockhart	6	267	53	44.5
Koy	55	2268	67	41.2

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Carr	4	13	17	3.3
Williams	18	28	14	1.6

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Childs	29	718	51	24.8
Koy	21	401	38	19.1

EASTERN CONFERENCE

This campaign will be a bit of a backward step for the Maramen. Last year the team tied for second Prediction: Third

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	Comments
Thomas, Aaron (T)	6-3	212	28	6	Oregon State	Thomas is a good one if he can keep from getting hurt. Shofner has been on downgrade last couple of seasons and colorful Jones could replace him as ace receiver. Multi-talented Morrison's most valuable in this group. Reynolds is back from Army stint. RATING—GOOD
Crespino, Bob (T)	6-4	225	28	6	Mississippi	
Shofner, Del (S)	6-3	185	31	10	Baylor	
Jones, Homer (S)	6-2	205	25	3	Texas Southern	
Morrison, Joe (F)	6-1	195	28	8	Cincinnati	
Reynolds, Roger (F)	6-1	191	24	1	Bowling Green	
(S)—Split end	(T)—Tight end	(F)—Flanker				

INTERIOR LINEMEN

Brown, Roosevelt (T)	6-3	255	34	13	Morgan State	Important questions here include whether Roosevelt Brown, offensive captain, plays in 13th campaign. McDowell was fill-in last year, Peay will be counted upon heavily as rookie. Bolin is veteran of championship teams; Case fitted in last year. Scholtz was adequate at center when Larson recovered slowly from knee surgery. RATING—FAIR
Peay, Fran (T)	6-5	250	21	1	Missouri	
McDowell, John (T)	6-3	260	24	3	St. John's	
Bolin, Bookie (G)	6-3	235	26	5	Mississippi	
Davis, Roger (G)	6-3	240	28	7	Syracuse	
Case, Pete (G)	6-3	243	25	5	Georgia	
Larson, Greg (C)	6-2	250	27	6	Minnesota	
Scholtz, Bob (C)	6-4	250	28	7	Notre Dame	
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center				

QUARTERBACKS

Morrall, Earl	6-2	206	32	11	Michigan State	Morrall has real class and is plenty durable. Timberlake did no quarterbacking rookie year. Wood is still unproven. RATING—VERY GOOD
Timberlake, Bob	6-4	220	23	2	Michigan	
Wood, Gary	5-11	195	24	3	Cornell	

RUNNING BACKS

Frederickson, Tucker (F)	6-3	220	23	2	Auburn	Unless military demands make dent, this is one of top departments on club. Frederickson was N. Y.'s top rookie last year, Koy developed in second half of season. Thurlow's big and durable, Reed is speediest of all. Rookies will have tough time breaking in here. Both Thurlow, Koy throw option pass. RATING—EXCELLENT
Mercein, Chuck (F)	6-3	230	24	2	Yale	
Koy, Ernie (F)	6-2	230	24	2	Texas	
Thurlow, Steve (H)	6-3	225	24	3	Stanford	
Reed, Smith (H)	6-0	215	24	2	Alcorn A&M	
Harris, Phil (H)	6-0	195	21	1	Texas	
Minnear, Randy (H)	6-0	200	21	1	Purdue	
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback					

KICKER

Gogolak, Pete	6-2	200	24	3	Cornell	'65: 28 of 46 FG atts. RATING—VERY GOOD
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DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN

Katcavage, Jim (E)	6-3	240	32	11	Dayton	Kat still has All-League stature, but after him class drops rapidly. Other end was filled by rookie Roosevelt Davis last year. Tackle was problem, with Slaby converted from linebacker in middle of season. Condren got to play briefly at end of year. Don Davis was Giants' No. 2 draft pick. Lalonde was 1965 regular. Lots of youth here. RATING—FAIR
Davis, Roosevelt (E)	6-5	260	24	2	Tennessee A&I	
Briggs, Bill (E)	6-3	230	21	1	Iowa	
Slaby, Lou (T)	6-3	245	24	3	Pittsburgh	
LoVetere, John (T)	6-4	278	30	8	Compton	
Davis, Don (T)	6-6	260	21	1	L.A. State	
Condren, Glen (T)	6-2	225	24	2	Oklahoma	
Lalonde, Roger (T)	6-3	255	24	3	Muskingum	
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle					

LINEBACKERS

Hillebrand, Jerry (M)	6-3	240	26	5	Colorado	Hillebrand has what it takes but he has to get meaner. Carroll, Underwood made it in rookie years. Swain came from Vikings and did job. Costello was taxi-squadder couple of years. Ciccolella was a future draft pick two years ago. RATING—FAIR
Carroll, Jim (O)	6-1	230	23	2	Notre Dame	
Underwood, Olen (O)	6-1	220	24	2	Texas	
Swain, Bill (O)	6-2	230	25	4	Oregon	
Costello, Tom (O)	6-3	220	25	3	Dayton	
Ciccolella, Mike (O)	6-1	235	22	1	Dayton	
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker					

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Lynch, Dick (C)	6-1	198	30	9	Notre Dame	Patton fights to hold safety spot. Fleet-footed Carr was surprisingly tough in rookie year. Lynch was sound at one corner, Lockhart did all you could ask of rookie at other. Harris, from Colts, fights for safety spot. Childs is best of runback artists. RATING—VERY GOOD
Lockhart, Carl (C)	6-2	175	23	2	N. Texas State	
Patton, Jim (S)	5-10	186	33	11	Mississippi	
Carr, Henry (S)	6-3	205	23	2	Arizona State	
Childs, Clarence (S)	6-0	200	27	3	Florida A&M	
Harris, Wendell (S)	5-11	185	26	5	L.S.U.	
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety					

Any romantic word-painter would have little difficulty coming up with something nice and colorful to describe the New York Giants the past few years. In 1963 it would have been the "Year of the Bald Eagle," a grandeloquent reference to the 36-TD passing prowess of Yelberton Abraham Tittle.

And 1964 could be described as the "Year of the Great Depression," a morose description of the worst season in Giant annals: The many-times Eastern champs wound up with their poorest record (2-10-2) and their customers singing derisively in the stands.

Last year it was "Baby Bulls to the Rescue," a tribute to the astuteness and all-around effectiveness of the Giants' recruiters, who concentrated on getting large, fast backs to the exclusion of virtually all other needs. True, they worried about defensive backs, all right—and linebackers, too—but the No. 1 draft pick was Tucker Frederickson and he turned out to be their best rusher in several seasons. And along with him came Ernie Koy, Chuck Mercein and Smith Reed, no one of them less than 220, and all effective in luggering the leather.

What's the sub-title this year? It could well be "Year of the Big Linemen," because that's where the Giants concentrated their efforts in viewing the collegiate field last fall, and where they think they have been singularly shrewd in their choices. The gaps had been apparent to even the most casual viewer; the loss of two regulars to Atlanta in the expansion draft indicated quite emphatically the Giants' obvious dissatisfaction with what they had.

So they hit the big linemen in the grab-bag, and hit them as heavily as they could. Their first three picks for '66 were linemen Fran Peay, the big tackle from Missouri, No. 1; Don Davis, the even bigger defensive tackle from L. A. State, No. 2; and Bill Briggs, the defensive end from Iowa, No. 3. (Briggs was actually the fifth choice of the Giants; Nos. 3 and 4 were ac-

counted for by a future pick, plus the fulfillment of a previous trade commitment.)

And the urgent need for linemen was there. Rosey Brown, the team's defensive captain, might be finished as the result of his second serious bout with phlebitis, an inflammation of the linings of the veins in his leg. Peay, if he progresses rapidly, could fit right into an offensive tackle role.

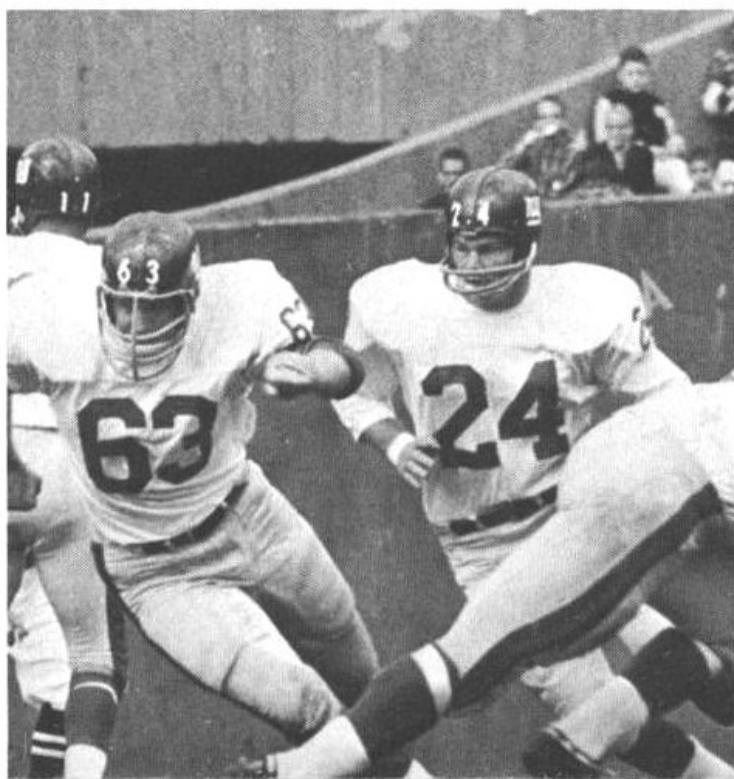
At the end of '65, the Giants were using Lou Slaby, a linebacker, at defensive tackle. Davis makes the 6-3 Slaby look like an undernourished kid. And the Giants are counting heavily on the return here of 280-pound John LoVetere, veteran of the championship 1963 club who has been plagued by injury the past two years. Solid tackles could anchor the entire defense.

The Giants finished in a tie for second with Dallas last year, losing their hold on the No. 2 spot to the Cowboys in the final confrontation of the campaign. They got that far with what can be charitably described as week-to-week improvisations in both the offensive and defensive lines. For this reason the high command seems to feel that luck with a couple of the big picks could mean the difference between just first division and a strong bid for Eastern honors.

Aiding and abetting will be such proven performers as Earl Morrall (22 TDs and only a dozen interceptions last year); Frederickson, who had the best year rushing for the New Yorkers since Alex Webster enjoyed a 700-yards-plus year in '62; and Homer Jones, who could wind up as one of the most colorful personalities on a club where the hallmark has always been efficiency rather than color.

Homer caught six TD passes last season, and along with Frederickson shared individual scoring honors. He's also taken a few prizes in the humor department. In fact, Jones likes to keep everybody laughing—with the exception of the defensive backs assigned to cover him, that is. □

Tucker Frederickson (24) gave the Giants the power runner they so desperately needed, and with him in the backfield as a constant threat, New York's passing game—under the guidance of Earl Morrall—worked well also



EASTERN CONFERENCE

Holes in some key spots, questionable trades and a bit too much age on defense cancel any flag shot Prediction: Fourth

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

1965 RECORD (5-9-0)

34	St. Louis	27
14	New York	16
17	Cleveland	35
35	Dallas	24
27	New York	35
14	Pittsburgh	20
21	Washington	23
34	Cleveland	38
21	Washington	14
24	Baltimore	34
28	St. Louis	24
19	Dallas	21
47	Pittsburgh	13
28	Detroit	35

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Baker	0	38	9	65
Retzlaff	10	0	0	60
Gros	9	0	0	54
T. Brown	9	0	0	54

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
T. Brown	158	861	6	5.4
Gros	145	479	7	3.3
Woodeshick	28	145	0	5.2
Concannon	9	104	0	11.6

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Snead	288	150	2346	15	13	52.1
Hill	112	60	857	5	10	53.6
Concannon	29	12	176	1	3	41.4

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Retzlaff	66	1190	10	18.0
T. Brown	50	682	3	13.6
Poage	31	612	5	19.7
Gros	29	271	2	9.3

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Ramsey	6	74	24	12.3
Nettles	3	84	56	28.0
Scarpatti	3	4	3	1.1
Cross	3	1	1	0.3

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Hill	19	813	52	42.8
Baker	37	1551	60	41.9

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Cross	14	79	16	5.6
Gill	2	28	14	14.0
Brown	4	13	7	3.3

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Cross	25	662	74	26.5
Nelson	26	683	70	26.3

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Holes in some key spots, questionable trades and a bit

too much age on defense cancel any flag shot Prediction: Fourth

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	Comments
Retzlaff, Pete (T)	6-1	215	34	11	S. Dakota State	Retzlaff was best tight end in league in what was probably his next-to-last season. Poage has
Poage, Ray (S)	6-3	205	25	4	Texas	continued to improve, and Goodwin, Glass
Goodwin, Ronnie (F)	5-11	180	25	4	Baylor	battle for flanker role. Cronin, activated sec-
Glass, Glenn (F)	6-0	203	26	5	Tennessee	ond half of last year, has size for backup of
Cronin, Bill (T)	6-4	231	23	2	Boston College	Retzlaff. The acquisition of speedy Willie Brown
Hill, Fred (S)	6-2	215	23	2	U.S.C.	from the Rams should help. RATING—GOOD
Brown, Willie (F)	6-0	187	24	3	U.S.C.	
(S)—Split End					(T)—Tight End	
					(F)—Flanker	

INTERIOR LINEMEN						
Brown, Bob (T)	6-4	295	24	3	Nebraska	
Howell, Lane (T)	6-5	272	25	4	Grambling	
Graham, Dave (T)	6-3	250	27	4	Virginia	
Rissmiller, Ray (T)	6-4	250	24	1	Georgia	
Blaine, Ed (G)	6-1	243	26	5	Missouri	
Skaggs, Jim (G)	6-3	250	26	4	Washington	
Hoyem, Lynn (G)	6-4	253	27	4	Long Beach State	
Ringo, Jim (C)	6-2	230	34	14	Syracuse	
Osmond, John (C)	6-4	255	22	1	Tulsa	
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center				

QUARTERBACKS						
Snead, Norman	6-4	215	27	6	Wake Forest	
Hill, King	6-3	213	29	9	Rice	
Concannon, Jack	6-3	205	23	3	Boston College	
Miller, Bob	6-3	195	21	1	Sacramento State	
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback					

KICKERS						
Baker, Sam	6-2	218	33	12	Oregon State	
Circo, Gerald	6-0	195	22	1	Chico State	

Baker was hurt most of year. Circo gets look for punting. RATING—FAIR

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN						
Hultz, Don (E)	6-3	235	25	4	Southern Miss.	
Tarasovic, George (E)	6-4	248	36	13	L.S.U.	
Mazzanti, Jerry (E)	6-3	240	26	2	Arkansas	
Beisler, Randy (E)	6-5	245	21	1	Indiana	
Pettigrew, Gary (E)	6-4	245	21	1	Stanford	
Meyers, John (T)	6-6	276	26	4	Washington	
Peters, Floyd (T)	6-4	255	30	9	San Francisco	
Khayat, Ed (T)	6-4	250	30	10	Tulane	
Molden, Frank (T)	6-5	285	23	2	Jackson State	
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle					

LINEBACKERS						
Brown, Fred (O)	6-5	223	23	2	Miami (Fla.)	
Lloyd, Dave (M)	6-3	248	29	8	Georgia	
Morgan, Mike (O)	6-4	242	24	3	L.S.U.	
Wells, Harold (O)	6-2	220	27	2	Purdue	
Kelley, Dwight (O)	5-11	225	22	1	Ohio State	
Vasys, Arunas (O)	6-2	225	23	1	Notre Dame	
Whittingham, Fred (O)	6-2	240	27	2	Calif. Poly (SLO)	
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker					

DEFENSIVE BACKS						
Nelson, Al (S)	5-11	186	22	2	Cincinnati	
Nettles, Jim (C)	5-10	177	24	2	Wisconsin	
Ramsey, Nate (C)	6-1	200	25	4	Indiana	
Scarpatti, Joe (S)	5-10	185	23	3	N. Carolina State	
Longo, Tom (C)	6-1	200	24	1	Notre Dame	
Medved, Ron (C)	6-1	210	22	1	Washington	
Martin, Aaron (C)	6-0	188	25	3	N. Carolina Coll.	
(C)—Corner back	(S) Safety					

Move of Nelson to corner and Ramsey to safety seemed to help last year. Scarpatti is small but around the ball a lot. Aaron Martin comes from the Rams in exchange for a disenchanted Irv Cross. Nettles a fill-in. The rest are rookies. The sleeper might be Medved, a versatile star at Washington. RATING—FAIR

When the tea and scones are served at the next meeting of the Theophysical Society and someone asks, "Who had the best rushing average in the NFL last year?", more than half the members will probably answer, "Brown." And they'll be wrong. Well, half wrong, anyway, because chances are they'll mean Jim Brown of the Browns, when the champ was actually Timmy Brown of the Eagles.

Or take a corollary question, "Who gained more yards in a season than anyone else?" Again the answer will be "Brown," again they'll be wrong, or half wrong, etc., etc. It'll be Timmy again, the fellow who can do just about everything on a football field.

So when you're talking about the pound-for-pound merits of various football players, don't forget the Eagles' 200-pound ace from Ball State. In 1963, with an Eagle club that won two games, he racked up a combined net yardage of 2,428. No one has ever come within 100 yards of this mark. Who came closest? Timmy Brown, with the 1962 Eagles.

The 1966 Eagles figure to win a lot more than two games, probably several more than the five they won last year. The reason for this is, of course, the continued presence of Timmy Brown, plus the emergence of Norm Snead as a first-class quarterback. Snead played with a bad knee last year, but he has apparently learned to take the extra split second that makes the difference. Says who?

Says Pete Retzlaff, best tight end in Eagles' history, who set a club record with 66 pass receptions last year for 1,190 yards (another club record). Retzlaff, having a final go at it at age 34, thinks Snead could become one of the really good ones.

"When you're in the end zone," offers the Baron, "and they're throwing to you, a foot either way means an interception. That's why Snead's learning to take his time has been so important."

Retzlaff's availability is also a significant factor.

Last year he was the only tight end among the top 10 NFL receivers, finishing third behind Dave Parks and his former teammate, Tommy McDonald. Tommy beat him out by a single reception in the last game.

The Eagles are a half-dozen years past their last championship, having won in 1960 with Norm Van Brocklin at the helm. The Dutchman was hanging 'em up at that time, and when he didn't get the coaching job he was after, he went to Minnesota as field boss. Eventually Joe Kuharich replaced Nick Skorich as head man, and right now Joe is operating under the longest contract in pro football, if not in pro sports. His pact is for a total of 15 years as general manager and head coach.

Kuharich's overall task is to inject a note of determination into the Eagle defense. The club scored as many points as any in the East last year, and its total offense was second-best in the NFL. But, obviously, performance that resulted in almost twice as many losses as victories can stand improvement.

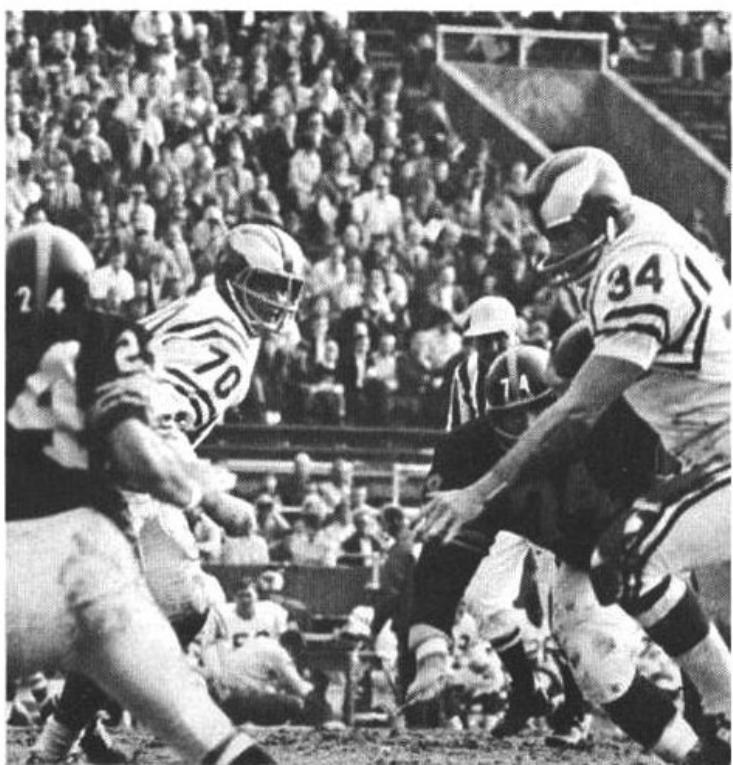
The potential is there, though, and if such top draftees as Randy Beisler and Gary Pettigrew in the defensive line have the desired effect, they'll be a big help. Timmy Brown and Earl Gros form a fine one-two running punch, and Retzlaff is a constant long threat as he beats men many years his junior.

If the Theophysical Society is still lingering over its tea and scones, another question could be thrown in to brighten things up: "What player had the two best rushing games in the NFL last year?"

The membership will inevitably answer "Brown" and they'll be half right, again, but it was Timmy, not Jim. Timmy had a 186-yarder against Cleveland and a 180-yarder against St. Louis.

And just to confuse matters a trifle, the Eagles took another Brown to camp this year. A running back, too. He's a rookie from South Carolina State. His name is Jim. □

Earl Gros (34) gives the Eagles an inside running threat to go with Tim Brown's outside speed—and both of these backs do a good job catching Norm Snead's aerials, blocking for each other and pass protecting



EASTERN CONFERENCE

Even if Charley Johnson's shoulder is okay—and that's a big if—there are too many other "maybe's" Prediction: Fifth

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

1965 RECORD (5-9-0)

27	Philadelphia	34
49	Cleveland	13
20	Dallas	13
37	Washington	16
20	Pittsburgh	7
20	Washington	24
10	New York	14
21	Pittsburgh	17
13	Chicago	34
15	New York	28
24	Philadelphia	28
3	Los Angeles	27
13	Dallas	27
24	Cleveland	27

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Bakken	0	33	21	96
Randle	9	0	0	54
Triplett	7	0	0	42
Conrad	5	0	0	30

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Triplett	174	617	6	3.5
Crenshaw	127	437	0	3.4
Thornton	31	188	0	6.1
Gautt	44	175	2	4.0

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Johnson	322	155	2439	18	15	48.2
Humphrey	105	58	736	1	9	55.2
Nofsinger	20	8	47	1	1	40.0

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Conrad	58	909	5	15.7
Randle	51	845	9	16.6
Smith	41	648	2	15.8
Triplett	26	256	1	9.8

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Wilson	6	152	95	25.3
Burson	5	113	42	22.6
Fischer	3	30	16	10.0
Stovall	2	15	18	15.0

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Bakken	26	1098	56	42.2
Smith	39	1532	62	39.3

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Silvestri	3	21	12	7.0
Woodson	16	7	13	0.5

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Woodson	27	665	65	24.6
Gambrell	9	216	31	24.0

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Conrad, Bobby Joe (F)	6-2	195	30	9	Texas A&M
Gambrell, Billy (S)	5-10	175	24	4	South Carolina
Logan, Chuck (T)	6-4	210	23	3	Northwestern
Ogden, Ray (F)	6-5	215	23	2	Alabama
Randle, Sonny (S)	6-2	190	30	8	Virginia
Smith, Jackie (T)	6-4	215	26	4	NW Louisiana
Drulis, Chuck Jr. (F)	6-3	215	23	1	Duke
(S)—Split end	(T)—Tight end	(F)—Flanker			

Comments

Conrad and Randle represent awesome one-two threat. Between them they picked up 100 completions last year. Bobby Joe has 254 in four years. Smith established at tight end with support from Logan. Gambrell is versatile. Drulis is son of former pro and current Card assistant coach. RATING—VERY GOOD

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
DeMarco, Bob (C)	6-3	240	27	6	Dayton
Goode, Irv (G)	6-5	250	25	5	Kentucky
Gray, Ken (G)	6-2	250	30	9	Howard Payne
McMillan, Ernie (T)	6-6	260	28	6	Illinois
Reynolds, Bob (T)	6-5	265	27	4	Bowling Green
Sortun, Rick (G)	6-2	235	23	3	Washington
Turner, Herschel (G-T)	6-3	230	24	3	Kentucky
Brooks, Chuck (T)	6-5	245	23	1	Memphis State
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center			

This is same line that provided enough blocking in 1964 for Johnson to pick up more than 3,000 yards passing. All are established: DeMarco in the middle, flanked by Goode and Gray, with McMillan and Reynolds at the tackles. Sortun, Turner are sometime performers. Brooks is up from taxi squad. The key to '66 is right here. RATING—VERY GOOD

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Johnson, Charley	6-0	190	27	6	New Mex. State
Humphrey, Buddy	6-2	200	30	8	Baylor
Nofsinger, Terry	6-4	215	28	6	Utah
Snook, Gary	6-1	185	22	1	Iowa

Everything depends on Johnson's recovery from a shoulder injury. Humphrey couldn't do it last year. Nofsinger is a fill-in. Snook gets look after great Iowa career. RATING—FAIR

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Childress, Joe (H)	6-0	210	32	10	Auburn
Crenshaw, Willis (F)	6-2	230	25	3	Kansas State
Gautt, Prentice (F)	6-1	210	28	7	Oklahoma
Thornton, Bill (F)	6-1	215	26	4	Nebraska
Triplett, Bill (H)	6-2	210	26	5	Miami (O.)
Roland, Johnny (H)	6-2	207	21	1	Missouri
Bryant, Larry (F)	6-1	207	23	1	Allen University
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

Childress was hurt last year and Triplett had to carry too much of load, especially after disabling illness of year earlier. Crenshaw showed flashes. Thornton and Gautt are reserves. Gautt suffered broken arm after six games. Roland was much-sought high draft, may work on defense. RATING—FAIR

KICKER

Bakken, Jim	6-0	200	25	5	Wisconsin
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Bakken has top record. RATING—EXCELLENT

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Brumm, Don (E)	6-3	245	24	4	Purdue
Long, Dave (E)	6-4	235	21	1	Iowa
McQuarters, Ed (T)	6-1	255	23	2	Oklahoma
Lucas, Harold (T)	6-2	286	20	1	Michigan State
Melinkovich, Mike (E)	6-4	240	24	2	Gray Harbor
Owens, Luke (T)	6-3	255	30	10	Kent State
Redmond, Tom (E)	6-5	255	28	7	Vanderbilt
Robb, Joe (E)	6-3	245	29	8	Texas Christian
Silas, Sam (T)	6-4	250	25	4	So. Illinois
Walker, Chuck (T)	6-3	245	25	3	Duke
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle				

Front line is intact from last year, with Brumm, Robb, Silas and Owens. Silas could be a real comer. McQuarters saw limited action last year. Cards, in their second and third draft choices in this department, went for Harold Lucas, fireplug Big Ten tackle (266) and Dave Long, big prospect from Iowa. If this group can play up to its 1964 performance, Cards will be back in Eastern Conference contention. If not, forget it. RATING—GOOD

LINEBACKERS

LINEBACKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Alford, Mike (O)	6-3	230	23	2	Auburn
Hammack, Mai (O)	6-2	210	33	10	Florida
Koman, Bill (O)	6-2	230	31	11	North Carolina
Meggyesy, Dave (O)	6-2	220	24	4	Syracuse
Meinert, Dale (M)	6-2	220	32	9	Oklahoma State
Simmons, Dave (M)	6-4	245	23	2	Georgia Tech
Stallings, Larry (O)	6-2	235	24	4	Georgia Tech
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker				

Meinert in middle flanked by Stallings and Koman looks like Cards' basic lineup. Koman talks big but plays big, too. Meinert's a real top-notcher as play analyst. Hammack is seeking to hang on; Meggyesy, Alford and Simmons are reserves. Marion Rushing went to Atlanta in draft. RATING—FAIR

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Bailey, Monk (S)	6-1	180	28	3	Utah
Burson, Jimmy (C)	6-1	180	25	4	Auburn
Fischer, Pat (C)	5-9	170	26	6	Nebraska
Stovall, Jerry (S)	6-2	205	25	4	L.S.U.
Wilson, Larry (S)	6-0	190	28	7	Utah
Woodson, Abe (S)	5-11	190	31	9	Illinois
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety				

Wilson, a standout in courage department, shares safety role with Jerry Stovall. Burson gained confidence despite sour Card season and had five interceptions. Fischer, probably smallest defensive back in league, is one of best. Bailey is reserve. RATING—GOOD

The Cards start their 1966 campaign on a slightly different note from last year. They have a new ball park, a new coach and a new problem at quarterback. Actually the latter is a carryover from last year, when Charley Johnson struggled through the season with a shoulder injury, a dramatic and very relevant factor in the Cardinals' ultimate fifth-place finish.

The new Riverfront ball park is a dandy, a reflection of the pride St. Louisans feel in their city. It opened for baseball last spring. The new coach is Charlie Winner, who was a defensive assistant for a dozen years with the Baltimore Colts.

Charley is a son-in-law of Weeb Ewbank and was good enough to be retained by Baltimore when Weeb moved over to run the New York Jets in the other league. The reason given for Winner's replacing Wally Lemm is a dandy. The management said that Wally, who had another year to go on a two-year contract, didn't want to make his year-around home in St. Louis.

Charlie went along with the gag: The day he signed, he announced he was making his year-around home in St. Louis. Sometimes, not often, but sometimes, football front-office people think and act like baseball people in their contempt for the intelligence of the public.

Lemm isn't coaching St. Louis any more because Charley Johnson was hurt in the fourth game of the season against Washington. It wasn't even his throwing shoulder, but if the non-throwing shoulder is injured sufficiently it can affect your style. Charley's stand-in, Buddy Humphrey, who had been watching a half-dozen years, was asked to step in and take charge and clearly he couldn't do it. He threw one TD pass and nine interceptions. That's the real reason Wally Lemm is coaching at Houston.

There were other items that helped. John David Crow, who didn't care for the way things were run in St. Louis, was traded straight-up to San Francisco for

Abe Woodson. Bill Triplett came back from a year's illness to be the leading Card rusher, but Joe Childress was lost for the year. Larry Stallings, one of the outside linebackers, was injured.

The Cards were upset by the Eagles in the opener, but roared back with an immense victory over the Cleveland Browns during which Johnson threw a half-dozen TD passes, and the defense picked off six Brown passes. This had to be an omen, but a couple of games later Johnson was hurt and the season ended there. (Actually it ended late in December with the Cards dropping the last of six straight losses.)

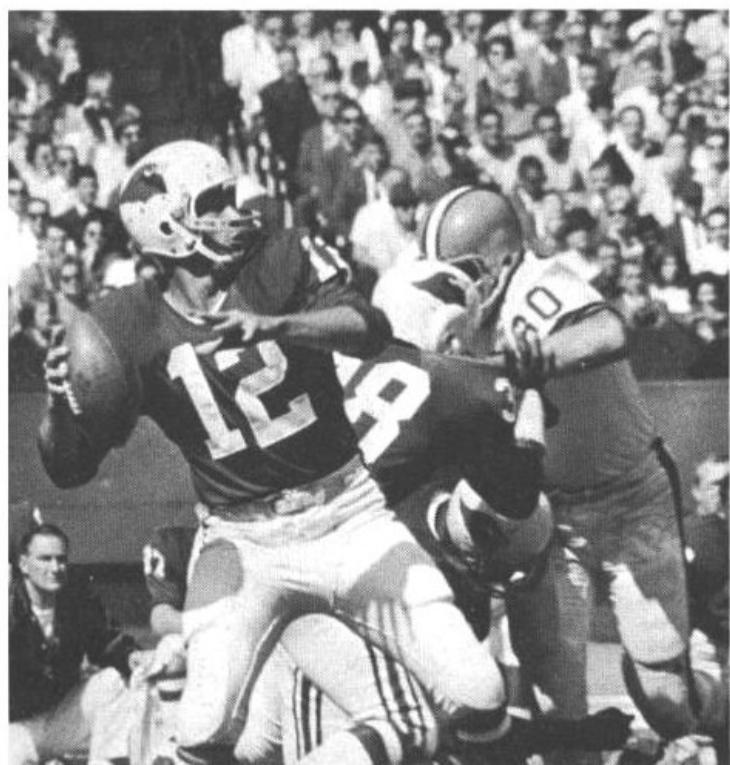
Winner inherits some fine personnel. The interior line is established and it provided the pass blocking for Johnson in 1964 that enabled him to pick up 3,000 yards. Name a better pair of receivers than Bobby Joe Conrad and Sonny Randle. Conrad has caught 254 tosses in the past four seasons.

The defensive line is intact from last year and one of the newcomers here is Harold Lucas, the 290-pound Michigan State lineman who used to mow the opposition down like dominoes in the Big Ten. Anytime someone 290 or thereabouts leans on the opposition it has to yield like dominoes. Lucas' explanation of his heft is that he doesn't eat much, but "often."

The linebacking is first class, with Dale Meinert, Bill Koman and Larry Stallings holding down the regular spots. The top four in the defensive backfield are also top-notch. Pat Fischer, a 5-9, 170-pound ball of fire, used to stand out above all the rest defensively, but last year Larry Wilson wrested the spotlight from him.

So Winner doesn't go into St. Louis with empty pockets. Yet it all comes down to whether Johnson makes a comeback in his sixth campaign. There is only one thing worse that can happen to a club than having its bus run through a closed railroad gate. And that's an injury to the star quarterback with an inadequate backup. Ask Wally Lemm. □

Charley Johnson's performance through most of the 1965 campaign was not up to par. An injury to his left shoulder—not on his passing arm—cut his playing time, completion record and TD tosses way back



EASTERN CONFERENCE

*There's a new coach, but no improvement in players
to build any big hopes around for this season Prediction: Sixth*

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

1965 RECORD (6-8-0)

7	Cleveland	17
7	Dallas	27
10	Detroit	14
16	St. Louis	37
7	Baltimore	38
24	St. Louis	20
23	Philadelphia	21
23	New York	7
14	Philadelphia	21
31	Pittsburgh	3
34	Dallas	31
16	Cleveland	24
10	New York	27
35	Pittsburgh	14

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Jencks	0	29	10	59
Taylor	6	0	0	36
Mitchell	6	0	0	36
Lewis	4	0	0	24

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Taylor	145	402	3	2.8
Lewis	117	348	2	2.9
Hughley	37	175	0	4.7
Atkins	18	44	0	2.4

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Jurgensen	356	190	2179	15	16	53.4
Shiner	65	28	470	3	4	43.1

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Mitchell	60	866	6	14.4
Taylor	40	575	3	14.4
Carpenter	23	298	0	12.9
Lewis	23	260	2	11.3

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Krause	6	118	43	19.6
Sample	6	67	28	11.2
Steffen	3	56	42	16.7
Sanders	4	121	42	30.2

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Richter	54	2364	72	43.8
Snidow	9	336	53	37.3

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Harris	30	384	57	12.8
Atkins	3	11	9	2.7

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Hunter	17	455	50	26.7
Hughley	13	295	47	22.3

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Carpenter, Pres (T)	6-1	208	32	11	Arkansas
Coia, Angelo (S)	6-2	196	28	7	U.S.C.
Hunter, Bill (F)	6-1	185	22	2	Syracuse
Mazurek, Fred (S)	5-11	192	23	2	Pittsburgh
Mitchell, Bobby (F)	6-0	196	31	9	Illinois
Richter, Pat (S-T)	6-5	229	25	4	Wisconsin
(S)—Split end	(T)—Tight end	(F)—Flanker			

Mitchell must regain top form of couple years ago if Redskins are to make showing here. Coia can do it at split end, but Carpenter could be pushed at tight end by Jerry Smith, who played last five games of '65 when Pres was injured. RATING—FAIR

INTERIOR LINEMEN					
Croftcheck, Don (G)	6-1	230	24	2	Indiana
Hauss, Len (C)	6-2	235	25	3	Georgia
O'Brien, Fran (T)	6-1	255	30	8	Michigan State
Promuto, Vince (G)	6-1	245	28	7	Holy Cross
Reed, Bob (G)	6-1	250	22	2	Tennessee A&I
Seedborg, John (G-K)	6-0	227	23	2	Arizona State
Snowden, Jim (T)	6-3	255	23	2	Notre Dame
Dess, Darrell (G)	6-0	245	31	9	N. Carolina State
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center			

There's plenty of guard talent here with Promuto, Dess, Reed, Croftcheck, but tackle spots are thin after you get past 1965 regulars O'Brien and Snowden. Hauss is a solid pivot. With replacements in there, Jurgy could flinch once in a while from pass blocking. Maybe Otto will try high drafts like Walter Barnes, Dick Lemay in this area. RATING—FAIR

QUARTERBACKS					
Jurgensen, Sonny	6-0	205	32	10	Duke
Shiner, Dick	6-0	197	24	3	Maryland

Jurgy threw only 15 TD passes last season. Shiner's picking up polish. RATING—FAIR

RUNNING BACKS					
Barrington, Tom (F)	6-1	218	22	1	Ohio State
Briggs, Bob (F)	6-1	225	23	2	Central St. (Okla.)
Ferguson, Bob (F)	5-11	225	24	3	Ohio State
Hughley, George (F)	6-2	226	25	2	Central St. (Okla.)
Michel, Tom (H)	6-0	215	25	2	East Carolina
Taylor, Charley (H)	6-3	210	25	3	Arizona State
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

Much depends on Taylor's third year. Ankle hampered him last year, but he was still best on one leg. The other spot is open. Barrington's high draft hope. Ferguson gets final look. Michel, ex-Viking, is journeyman. Hughley has lots of zip but can't block. RATING—FAIR

KICKER					
Gogolak, Charley	5-10	165	21	1	Princeton

All eggs are in rookie basket. RATING—??

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN					
Barnes, Walter (T)	6-3	250	22	1	Nebraska
Evers, Dick (T)	6-3	258	24	2	Colorado State
Kammerer, Karl (E)	6-3	243	29	6	U. of Pacific
Paluck, John (E)	6-2	245	31	9	Pittsburgh
Rutgens, Joe (T)	6-2	255	27	6	Illinois
Snidow, Ron (E-T)	6-3	250	24	4	Oregon
Williams, Fred (T)	6-4	256	36	15	Arkansas
Yates, Earl (T)	6-4	225	22	1	Duke
Lemay, Dick (E)	6-3	235	23	1	Vanderbilt
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle				

Paluck may quit for dental school which would be real ache. If he plays, he and Kammerer will hold down ends. Quinlan retired but Kammerer won job mid-season anyway. Rutgens, Snidow shape up as tackles, and Snidow can also play end. Williams has reached retirement age, but is ok in spots. Barnes was second pick in draft after unprecedented use of first pick for kicker. RATING—FAIR

LINEBACKERS					
Adams, Willie (O)	6-2	235	22	2	New Mex. State
Hamburger, Chris (O)	6-2	218	24	2	North Carolina
Huff, Sam (M)	6-1	230	32	11	West Virginia
Reger, John (O)	6-0	220	35	12	Pittsburgh
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker				

There's real problem here, particularly if Reger doesn't come back. Carr, Pellegrini retired. That puts Sam in middle flanked by inexperienced Hamburger and Adams. RATING—POOR

DEFENSIVE BACKS					
Clay, William (C)	6-1	192	22	1	Mississippi
Harris, Rickie (C)	6-0	182	22	2	Arizona
Krause, Paul (S)	6-3	195	24	3	Iowa
Sanders, Lonnie (C)	6-3	207	24	4	Michigan State
Shorter, Jim (C)	5-11	185	28	5	Detroit
Smith, Jerry (S)	6-2	208	23	2	Arizona State
Steffen, Jim (C)	6-0	196	29	8	U.C.L.A.
Walters, Tom (S)	6-2	195	24	3	Southern Miss.
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety				

This could prove fine unit despite loss of retiring Sample. Krause, All-League two years, has 18 interceptions for that period, and no one else comes close. Smith or Walters play other safety spot. Corners are held down by Sanders, Steffen. Lonnie is called for interference more often than is healthy. Harris did well in rookie season. RATING—GOOD

Trading draft choices for established players is a lot like buying furniture on the installment plan. The old front parlor looks pretty nifty for a while, but inevitably the guy from the collection agency shows up asking for payment due.

That's the way it was with Washington last year, and among the heads that rolled was the ample-browed one owned by Bill McPeak, the club's head coach-general manager. The previous year McPeak had gotten lucky with a couple of high-round picks like Charley Taylor and Paul Krause. Trades brought Sam Huff, Angelo Coia, Pres Carpenter and Sonny Jurgensen, and the ball club, with a half-dozen victories, won twice as many as the previous year.

But Washington had to sit on its hands at the following year's draft meeting while the other clubs picked in the Redskins' stead. Washington wound up with the same half-dozen victories in '65 and McPeak wound up with a job in TV, replaced by Hall-of-Famer Otto Graham, who came in on a five-year deal reported to be worth in the vicinity of a half-million bucks. Graham, whose coaching experience had been confined to the no-pressure atmosphere of the U. S. Coast Guard Academy, oddly enough came off a TV job (color man for the N. Y. Jets), indicating the inherent flexibility of the insatiable medium. (It taketh, but it also giveth back.)

Otto took over late in January, so the draft, etc., was behind him. Washington's No. 1 draft pick was unprecedented—a kicker, Charley Gogolak. It was the first time within memory that a specialist, toe division, had been accorded this honor by a club. After that Washington got around to its other needs—runners, linemen, etc.

The club suffered badly in the running department when Charley Taylor sustained an ankle injury before the season started. The big-back attack was never there, placing an inordinate burden on the

throwing of Sonny Jurgensen, and Jurg's TD production suffered accordingly.

Many experts picked Washington to top the East last year, or at least make a strong bid for the title. But the club let the forecasters down badly. As a result not many will give the Redskins more than a break-even outlook for '66. But the stuff is there and as Otto put it so succinctly, "No one expects the Redskins to win the championship this year. But if we put a good football team out on the field, the championship will take care of itself."

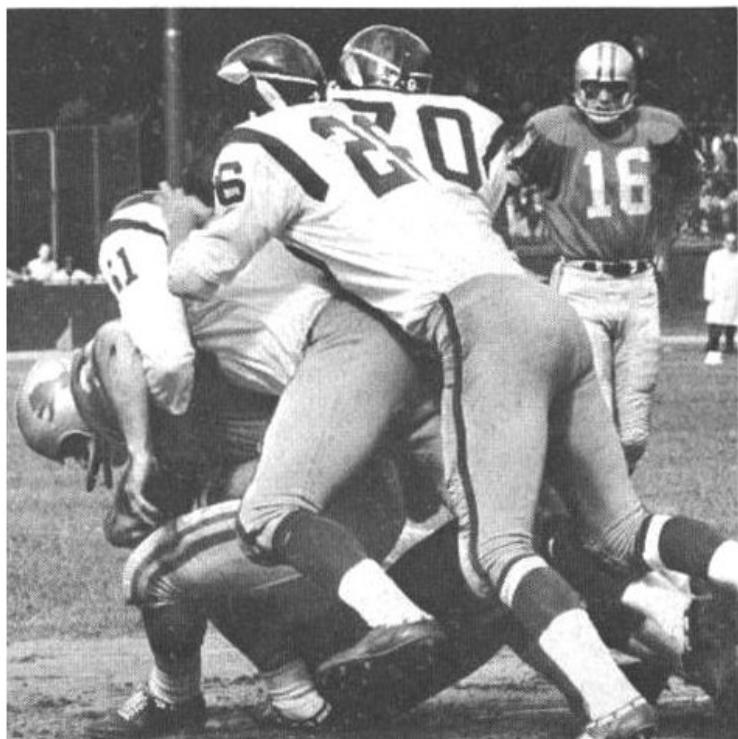
The "good" football team will include a number of top-notch people, including Paul Krause, All-Pro safety in his two years in the NFL, Bobby Mitchell, the speedy receiver and Taylor, the runner-receiver threat. And there's always Sam Huff in the middle on defense.

A number of Washington standbys are gone from the '66 picture, their usefulness at an end for one reason or another. Among them, Johnny Sample, the defensive back, Rick Casares, the fullback, and Bill Quinlan, the defensive lineman, could be counted on to make headlines off the playing field as well as on. Their passing should be noted.

Sample's last official act with the Redskins was to be suspended for failing to turn in six playbooks, a record, since the usual rate is one playbook to a player. Casares will be remembered for triggering the investigation that led to the suspension of Paul Hornung and Alex Karras for gambling. Quinlan, who played with a couple of championship Packer clubs, started a fight between Ben Scotti, a 185-pound defensive back, and John Mellekas, a 260-pound lineman, with a remark about Rozelle on the weekend the NFL played its full complement of games after the death of President Kennedy. Result? Scotti proceeded to break both hands beating Mellekas into a pulp.

Otto Graham is sure going to miss this trio, but he'll have Jurg for entertainment. □

Washington's defense is one of its few strong points. Here, linebackers John Reger (51) and Sam Huff (70) and safety Paul Krause (26) put the brakes on an unfortunate Lion runner



EASTERN CONFERENCE

The name of the game is quarterback—and nobody in the Steel City is even sure what his name will be Prediction: Seventh

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

1965 RECORD (2-12-0)

9	Green Bay	41
17	San Francisco	27
13	New York	23
19	Cleveland	24
7	St. Louis	20
20	Philadelphia	14
22	Dallas	13
17	St. Louis	21
17	Dallas	24
3	Washington	31
21	Cleveland	42
10	New York	35
13	Philadelphia	47
14	Washington	35

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Clark	0	19	11	52
Ballman	8	0	0	48
Hoak	6	0	0	36
Lind	2	0	0	12

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Hoak	131	426	5	3.2
Lind	111	375	1	3.3
Peaks	47	230	0	4.8
Butler	46	108	1	2.4

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Nelsen	270	121	1917	8	17	44.8
Wade	66	33	463	2	13	50.0

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Ballman	40	859	5	21.5
Thomas	25	431	1	17.2
Lind	25	236	1	9.4
Hoak	19	228	1	12.0

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
J. Bradshaw	5	117	82	23.4
Woodson	3	87	61	29.0
Sherman	1	35	35	35.0
Keys	1	20	20	20.0

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Lambert	78	3518	69	45.7

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Jefferson	13	100	67	7.6
Keys	10	77	12	7.7

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Butler	25	509	36	20.4
Peaks	20	429	58	21.4

EASTERN CONFERENCE

The name of the game is quarterback—and nobody in the Steel City is even sure what his name will be Prediction: Seventh

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Ballman, Gary (S)	6-1	205	26	5	Michigan State
Jefferson, Roy (S-F)	6-2	195	23	2	Utah
Martha, Paul (F)	6-0	185	24	3	Pitt
Simmons, Jerry (F)	6-1	190	23	2	Bethune-Cookman
Wilburn, J. R. (S-F)	6-2	190	21	1	South Carolina
Hilton, John (T)	6-5	220	22	2	Richmond
Folkins, Lee (T)	6-5	215	27	6	Washington
Powers, John (T)	6-2	210	26	6	Notre Dame
(S)—Split end	(T)—Tight end	(F)—Flanker			

Comments
Ballman, who is easily the best here, has been close to All-League caliber last three seasons. Jefferson showed progress at end of rookie campaign. Martha, local favorite, is still a question mark. Wilburn's a most promising rookie. Need for tight end is pressing and Mike Lind might be shifted there from fullback slot. **RATING—FAIR**

INTERIOR LINEMEN					
Bradshaw, Charles (T)	6-6	260	30	9	Baylor
James, Dan (T)	6-4	250	29	7	Ohio State
Lemek, Ray (G)	6-0	240	31	10	Notre Dame
Sandusky, Mike (G)	5-11	235	31	10	Maryland
Hunter, Art (C)	6-4	245	33	12	Notre Dame
Killorin, Pat (C)	6-2	220	21	1	Syracuse
Magac, Mike (G)	6-3	240	28	7	Missouri
Adamchik, Ed (G)	6-2	235	24	2	Pitt
Gagner, Larry (T)	6-3	240	22	1	Florida
Nichols, Bob (T)	6-3	250	23	2	Stanford
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center			

There are lots of problems here and rookies will have to help out. Bradshaw and James might get push from Nichols and Gagner, both of whom come with considerable reps. Lemek, Sandusky shape up as guards, Magac and Adamchik are behind them. Killorin is figured as reserve for veteran Hunter at center. Steelers will generate as feeble an attack in '66 as they did in '65, unless there's marked improvement here. **RATING—FAIR**

QUARTERBACKS					
Nelsen, Bill	6-0	195	24	4	U.S.C.
Wade, Tommy	6-1	195	24	3	Texas
Dial, Benjy	6-1	188	21	1	E. New Mexico
Lucas, Ken	5-10	185	21	1	Pitt
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

Nelsen comes off knee surgery and has the job until someone else proves otherwise. Wade hasn't been tested yet. Lucas was a good football name in western Pa. **RATING—FAIR**

RUNNING BACKS					
Hoak, Dick (H)	5-11	180	26	6	Penn State
Lind, Mike (F)	6-2	240	26	5	Notre Dame
Peaks, Clarence (H-F)	6-1	220	30	10	Michigan State
Butler, Jim (H)	5-10	185	23	2	Edw. Waters Coll.
Sapp, Theron (H)	6-1	210	30	9	Georgia
Leftridge, Dick (F)	6-2	240	21	1	West Virginia
(H)—Fullback	(T)—Halfback				

Rushing game was pitiful during '65 campaign. Hoak, Lind, Peaks fail to provide explosive qualities necessary. High hopes for Cannonball Butler faded in bad season. Leftridge has size and was sought in draft. Sapp has been around awhile. **RATING—FAIR**

KICKERS					
Clark, Mike	6-2	200	25	4	Texas A & M
Lambert, Frank	6-3	200	23	2	Mississippi
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle				

Clark is just fair in point-making department. Lambert punts ok. **RATING—FAIR**

FRONT LINEMEN					
Baker, John (E)	6-6	270	30	9	N. Car. College
McGee, Ben (E)	6-3	250	27	3	Jackson State
Mallick, Fran (E)	6-3	245	25	2	None
Gunnels, Riley (T)	6-3	255	29	7	Georgia
Hinton, Chuck (T)	6-5	260	27	4	N. Car. College
Kortas, Ken (T)	6-4	280	24	3	Louisville
Mansfield, Ray (T)	6-3	250	24	4	Washington
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle				

Given their pick here, other NFL clubs would probably take McGee, who made it as rookie. Hinton's no slouch, either. Baker is journeyman getting mileage out of having flattened Y. A. Tittle two years ago. Gunnels has been around. Kortas came from Cards last year, has size. No stars here. **RATING—FAIR**

LINEBACKERS					
Breedlove, Rod (O)	6-2	225	28	7	Maryland
Breen, Gene (O)	6-2	230	25	3	Virginia Tech
Campbell, John (O)	6-3	225	28	4	Minnesota
Pine, Ed (O)	6-2	240	26	5	Utah
Pottios, Myron (M)	6-2	240	37	5	Notre Dame
Schmitz, Bob (M)	6-1	235	28	6	Montana State
Russell, Andy (O)	6-2	215	24	2	Missouri
Saul, Bill (O)	6-4	225	25	4	Penn State
Novogratz, Joe (M)	6-2	230	21	1	Pitt
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker				

It's Pottios in the middle again if he stays whole. Otherwise look to Schmitz. Russell is back from two years in army. He was a pleasant surprise in his rookie campaign. With men like Breedlove, Breen, Campbell, Pine, Saul, etc., this has to be the catch-all of the NFL. Novogratz looks like best of new men. Weakness here puts an overwhelming burden on the front four. **RATING—POOR**

DEFENSIVE BACKS					
Bradshaw, Jim (S)	6-2	205	27	5	Chattanooga
Daniel, Willie (C)	5-11	185	27	6	Mississippi State
Keys, Brady (C)	6-0	185	29	6	Colorado State
Thomas, Cleondon (S)	6-2	200	30	9	Oklahoma
Woodson, Marv (S)	6-0	195	25	3	Indiana
Hohn, Bob (C)	6-0	185	26	2	Nebraska
Johnson, Herm (S)	6-4	215	25	1	Michigan State
Lofquist, Kraig (S)	6-0	185	23	1	Minnesota
(S)—Corner back	(S)—Safety				

Thomas goes back to defense in effort to keep unit from breaking down. Too much pressure on it last year had this effect. Bradshaw was smartest of this group with five interceptions. Keys plays well against certain clubs. Daniel, smallest of group, is on other corner. Johnson was good prospect two years ago with Mich. State. **RATING—FAIR**

The Pittsburgh Steelers have sent a player to the U. S. Supreme Court (Byron White) and a player to the Pro Football Hall of Fame's pantheon of great players (Bill Dudley), but they have never sent a team to an NFL title playoff. And the prospects for any break in a tradition extending over more than three decades are dim, dim, dim as the Steelers struggle to clamber from the league cellar.

Last year Pittsburgh had the worst record in the pros, two meager victories against a dozen losses. The management changed coaches before the season started, then changed coaches after the season ended. Bill Austin, a blond young man who has known title games as both a player (New York) and as an assistant coach (Green Bay) will now have a shot at it. He can only go as far as the horses can take him. To travel somewhat afield in search of an analogy, the current edition of the Steelers looks more like the entry for some claiming race than it does for the Kentucky Derby classic.

There are first-class operatives spotted throughout the lineup, but in scarcely sufficient numbers. Gary Ballman, the gifted receiver, is All Pro, or close to it. Given a big fullback to operate alongside, Dick Hoak could be as good as almost any No. 2 running back in the league. Jim Bradshaw is a fine defensive back. But everywhere the Steelers need help that just doesn't seem to be there. In an era of unprecedented prosperity, the Steelers, with their half-filled park on home Sundays, constitute a poor relation.

The indifference of the customers, in an area that goes back to before the turn of the century in its interest in the pro game, is a matter of deep concern to the NFL's high councils. Or it should be, with this year's tradition-shattering decision lifting the ban on hometown TV while the home team is playing. Does the Steeler customer continue climbing the mountain on which Pitt Stadium is perched to see his home club

drop another this fall? Or does he stay home to watch the Packers or the Browns on TV?

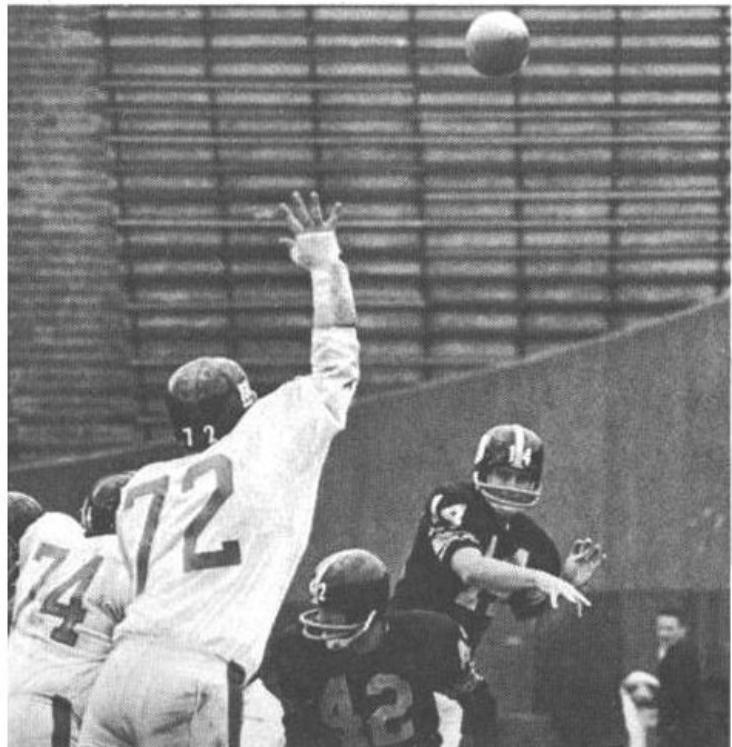
The Steelers had high hopes last year for a rookie runner named Jim Butler, who only stood 5-10 and weighed 185. He came to them with unbelievable credentials, such as six carries, six TDs in a single game for Edward Waters College, etc. NFL competition cut Cannonball down to size. The big hope this year is a much larger rookie, Dick Leftridge, and he's from much-closer West Virginia. Leftridge scales 240, and the Steelers rated him their No. 1 pick.

Leftridge will have to step into the shoes that John Henry Johnson left behind. Strange as it may seem, a large portion of the Steeler hopes were built around the return of John Henry, the aging heavy-duty back who sat out the 1965 campaign with a leg injury. Doubters held that a man of his age (36) couldn't come back. Hopefuls pointed out that Johnson seemed to improve with age. Then, in June, the Steeler brass suddenly gave Johnson his unconditional release. Leftridge is really on the spot, now.

Pittsburgh finally gave up on jolly Ed Brown as its field general last season, and this year Bill Nelsen gets what may turn out to be his final chance. Last year Nelsen was not impressive as Brown's successor. He threw eight TD passes, was intercepted twice as many times. Tommy Wade threw two TD passes, was intercepted 13 times. For a record almost as sour, one must go to the Cards' Buddy Humphrey (1 TD, nine times intercepted).

No one is trading away quarterbacks, not even for a fistful of draft choices anymore, so the Steelers go along with Nelsen. For the sake of Art Rooney, and the rest of the nice guys whose fortunes are tied up with the Steelers, it is fervently hoped that Nelsen has learned a good deal watching the Steelers pile up a mark of 14-25-3 in the three years he has been with the Pittsburgh club. □

Bill Nelsen (14) will get an opportunity to be the full-time field general of the Steelers this year, and it will be on his arm that the hopes—slim as they are—of the Pittsburgh club will ride



EASTERN CONFERENCE

Newborn teams fare badly at the start, and there's no reason to think this club will be an exception Prediction: Eighth

ATLANTA FALCONS

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Jencks (Wash.)	0	29	10	59
Lewis (Wash.)	4	0	0	24
Dunn (Dallas)	3	0	0	18

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Lewis (Wash.)	117	343	2	2.9
Dunn (Dallas)	54	171	2	3.2
Wheelwright (N.Y.)	24	96	0	4.0
Coffey (Green Bay)	3	12	0	4.0

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Claridge (Green Bay)	1	1	13	0	0	100.0

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Lewis (Wash.)	25	276	2	11.0
Mack (Pitt.)	3	41	0	13.7
Johnson (San Fran.)	3	49	0	16.3

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Benz (Cleve.)	5	78	31	15.6
Sherman (Pitt.)	1	35	35	35.0

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Franklin (Cleve.)	4	29	31	7.8

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Hawkins (Balt.)	4	18	11	4.5
Silvestri (St. L.)	3	21	12	7.0

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Silvestri (St. L.)	4	96	28	24.0
Johnson (San Fran.)	4	71	27	17.8

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Hawkins, Alex (S)	6-1	186	29	8	South Carolina
Casey, Charlie (F)	6-1	195	22	1	Florida
Martin, Billy (T)	6-5	240	23	3	Georgia Tech
Anderson, Taz (T)	6-2	215	26	5	Georgia Tech
Mack, Red (S)	5-10	185	29	6	Notre Dame
Petties, Neil (F)	6-2	198	25	3	San Diego State
Barnes, Gary (F)	6-4	210	25	4	Clemson
(S)—Split end	(T)—Tight end	(F)—Flanker			

Comments

Hawkins is convinced he can make it as receiver and will get chance. Casey was best in SEC last year. Martin has to fight off only Anderson for tight-end spot. Mack is prone to injuries. Petties could surprise as best in draft. The Colts used him very sparingly. Barnes had look with Bears. **RATING—FAIR**

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Grimm, Dan (G)	6-3	245	25	4	Colorado
Simon, Jim (G)	6-5	235	25	4	Miami (Fla.)
Cook, Ed (G)	6-2	250	34	9	Notre Dame
Whitlow, Bob (C)	6-2	236	30	7	Arizona
Talbert, Don (T)	6-5	240	27	3	Texas
Marchlewski, Frank (C)	6-2	238	22	2	Minnesota
Linden, Errol (T)	6-5	260	29	6	Houston
Lasky, Frank (T)	6-2	265	24	3	Florida
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center			

Grimm and Simon have played regularly. Cook has a lot of years on him. Whitlow was Lions' regular center until he lost out to Ed Flanagan in '65; no bad handoffs from him. Marchlewski was rookie with Rams. Linden was a Viking starter. Ditto Lasky with Giants, but several ends around league handled him too easily. Talbert comes from Cowboys. **RATING—FAIR**

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Claridge, Dennis	6-3	225	24	3	Nebraska
Johnson, Randy	6-3	192	22	1	Texas A&I
Sloan, Steve	6-0	185	22	1	Alabama

Claridge is only QB with big-league experience. Johnson was high draft but some feel Sloan could be real sleeper. **RATING—POOR**

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Wheelwright, Ernie (F)	6-3	240	28	3	So. Illinois
Coffey, Junior (F)	6-1	210	24	2	Washington
Dunn, Perry Lee (H)	6-1	200	25	3	Mississippi
Lewis, Dan (H)	6-1	200	30	9	Wisconsin
Johnson, Rudy (H)	5-11	190	24	3	Nebraska
Wolski, Bill (H)	5-11	203	22	1	Notre Dame
Asbury, Willie (F)	6-1	225	22	1	Kent State
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

Wheelwright is biggest candidate; he's prone to injury but can go when right. Coffey can be used at half or full. Lewis was overworked with Washington club. Wolski's Notre Dame rep stems from a big day against Southern California. Asbury has size and ran well against small-school competition. **RATING—POOR**

KICKER

KICKER	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Jencks, Bob	6-5	227	25	4	Miami (O.)

Wash.'s top scorer last year. **RATING—FAIR**

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Youmans, Maury (E)	6-4	253	29	7	Syracuse
Williams, Sam (E)	6-5	235	35	8	Michigan State
Powell, Tim (E)	6-4	248	22	2	Northwestern
Reese, Guy (T)	6-5	260	26	5	S.M.U.
Sieminski, Chuck (T)	6-5	265	26	4	Penn State
Anderson, Roger (T)	6-5	265	23	3	Virginia Union
Taylor, Bob (E)	6-3	242	27	4	Maryland State
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle				

Youmans was Cowboy regular but comes off knee surgery. Williams was long-time member of Lions' Big Four. He started late because of arm. Reese was occasional starter for Colts. Sieminski ditto for 49ers. Anderson was tried by Giants both ways. Powell was Rams' No. 3 end and Taylor's been around. **RATING—FAIR**

LINEBACKERS

LINEBACKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Nobis, Tommy (M)	6-2	230	22	1	Texas
Rushing, Marion (O)	6-2	230	29	6	So. Illinois
Jobko, Bill (O)	6-1	235	30	9	Ohio State
Messner, Max (O)	6-3	225	28	7	Cincinnati
Heck, Ralph (O)	6-2	229	24	4	Colorado
Lee, Monte (O)	6-4	220	28	5	Texas
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker				

Nobis was prize draft, has spot in middle until he plays himself out of it. Rushing, Jobko are both experienced NFL hands; Messner, Heck are backups. Lee's been with several clubs, played with some fine Detroit Lion units. **RATING—FAIR**

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Calland, Lee (C)	6-0	190	25	4	Louisville
Richardson, Jerry (C)	6-3	190	23	3	West Texas State
Silvestri, Carl (C)	6-0	195	23	2	Wisconsin
Smith, Ron (C)	6-0	180	23	2	Wisconsin
Nelson, Andy (C)	6-1	180	32	9	Memphis State
Benz, Larry (S)	5-11	185	25	4	Northwestern
Rassas, Nick (S)	6-0	192	22	1	Notre Dame
Franklin, Bobby (S)	5-11	182	29	7	Mississippi
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety				

Unit consisting of Calland, Richardson, Benz, Franklin would disgrace no one. Last two played couple of seasons with championship Browns, and Benz was starter. Calland started for Vikings, Richardson was Ram regular in 1964. Smith comes from Bears, Nelson shows signs of wear. Rassas, great Notre Dame punt returner, was second draft pick. **RATING—GOOD**

Atlanta is at the top of the list this year in at least two respects: alphabetically, and in the undisguised eagerness of the other clubs to clash with the new Falcons on the field of battle as soon as possible. It isn't every season that a grab-bag team pops up on the schedule; the lone regret in the East is that the newcomer plays a "swing" schedule, meeting every club in the NFL once instead of each Eastern Conference club twice.

It isn't the fault of the rival moguls that the first club to represent the gridiron-rich Southeast in big-time pro ball must inevitably prove a patsy in its premiere season. Winning clubs are not put together around a conference table. It took the Minnesota Vikings four years to move into a challenging position, and it took the Dallas Cowboys even longer.

If those people who accounted for the sale of 47,000 season tickets last winter were motivated by the hope they'd soon be taking part in a triumphal procession, they are doomed to disappointment. Should Atlanta win more games than can be counted on one hand, it would be considered a phenomenally successful campaign.

The core of all pro football is the heart, nerve and experience of the quarterback. Re the last qualification, the Falcons are laughable. Their one experienced quarterback, acquired in the expansion draft, threw one pass last year. The fact that Dennis Claridge also completed it is just a touch of irony.

Norb Hecker is one of several earnest young men getting their first shot at head-coaching roles in 1966. Hecker's credentials are impeccable: He worked for Vince Lombardi at Green Bay. Inevitably, some of the Generalissimo's know-how had to rub off. Hecker ran Lombardi's defensive secondary, and now he's running the entire show. He will doubtless think back to the afternoons he watched a Bart Starr running the offensive show at Green Bay or a Zeke Bratkowski stepping in when injury sidelined Bart.

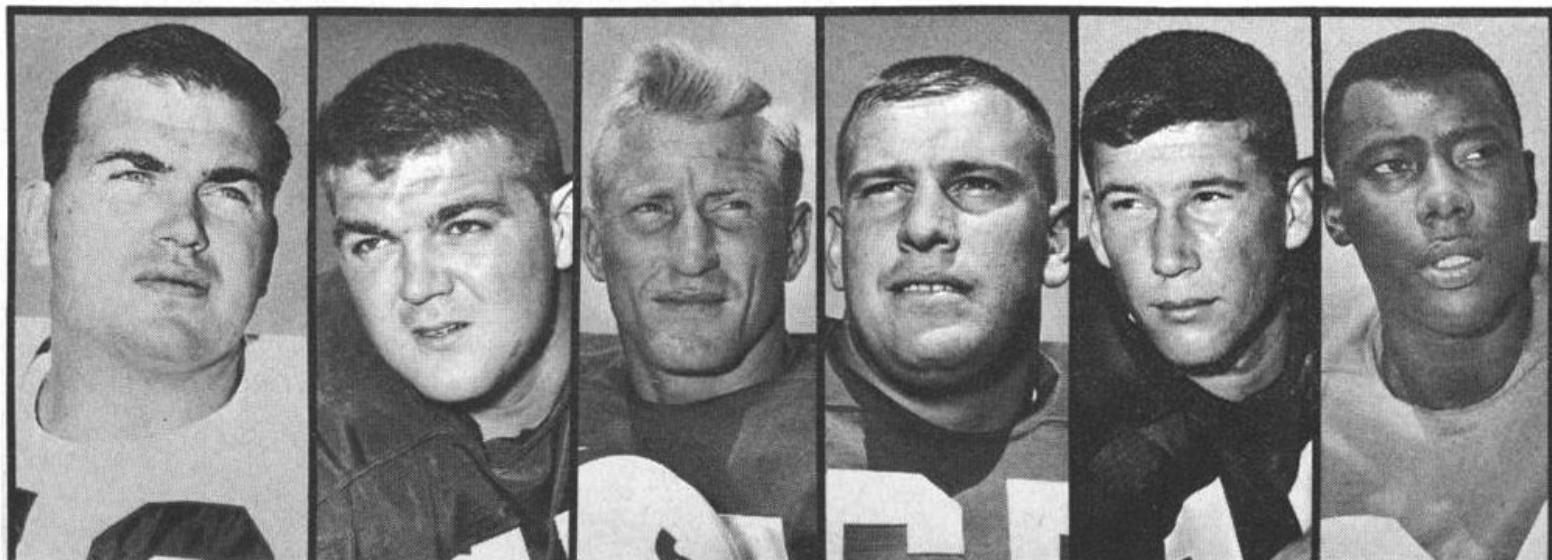
Hecker's task borders on that facing the alchemists of yore: making something precious out of base metals. The only thing going for Norb is that there is no feudal lord of the manor with life-and-death powers impatiently tapping his toe outside the lab door. Or is there? Atlanta probably represents the heaviest single sports investment in history. A half-dozen years ago it cost \$625,000 to stock a franchise. The Falcons paid almost 10 times that much. Add another couple million for bonus payments to untried youngsters, throw in training camp, operating costs, the incidentals of running the first year, etc., and the Falcons could represent a \$10-million investment. And that's U.S. money, folks, not the Confederate variety.

The local fanaticism for football, it is hoped, will carry the Falcons through their first few tough years. Georgia and Georgia Tech were drawing capacity crowds of 60,000 in the same area where the baseball teams drew peanuts. Wisely, the new management has merged the Georgia and Georgia Tech colors for the Falcons' finery. Merging the talents of the men made available by the 14 other clubs in the loop could be a somewhat more difficult task.

Playing each rival only once, instead of a home-and-home series within its own conference, will have the Falcon coaching staff functioning differently from all others. Game films will be studied *only* for what the Falcon players do. There won't be any need to note any idiosyncrasies of rival teams for future reference.

There'll be a four-game segment within five weeks for the Falcons that will have the rest of the league, in fact the rest of football, watching with interest. In the following order, Atlanta plays San Francisco, Green Bay, Cleveland and then, after a week's lay-off, Baltimore. There is an excellent chance that the Falcons could be playing the 1967 title playoff principals on successive weekends—which would be both flattering and flattening. □

Among the outstanding picks that the Falcons made in the NFL expansion draft are, from left, Maury Youmans, defensive end; Dan Grimm, guard; Alex Hawkins, receiver; Chuck Sieminski, defensive tackle; Dennis Claridge, quarterback; and Neal Petties, receiver. They comprise a good blend of youth and experience



1965 NFL INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Sayers, Chicago	22*	0	0	132*
Brown, Cleveland	21	0	0	126
Cox, Minnesota	0	44	23*	113
Davis, San Francisco	0	52*	17	103
Michaels, Baltimore	0	48	17	101
Bakken, St. Louis	0	33	21	96
Groza, Cleveland	0	45	16	93
Chandler, Green Bay	0	37	17	88
Leclerc, Chicago	0	52*	11	85
Villanueva, Dallas	0	37	16	85

RUSHING

	Atts	Yards	TDs	Longest	Avg
Brown, Cleveland	289*	1544*	17*	67*	5.3
Sayers, Chicago	166	867	14	61	5.2
Brown, Philadelphia	158	861	6	54	5.4*
Willard, San Francisco	189	778	5	32	4.1
Taylor, Green Bay	207	734	4	35	3.5
Brown, Minnesota	160	699	6	40	4.4
Perkins, Dallas	177	690	0	43	3.9
Frederickson, New York	195	659	5	41	3.4
Triplett, St. Louis	174	617	6	59	3.5
Mason, Minnesota	141	597	10	26	4.2

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Pct Comps	Yards	TDs	Ints	Pct Ints	Avg Gain
Bukich, Chicago	312	176	56.4	2641	20	9	2.9*	8.46
Unitas, Baltimore	282	164	58.2	2530	23	12	4.3	8.97*
Brodie, San Francisco	391*	242*	61.9*	3112*	30*	16	4.1	7.96
Starr, Green Bay	251	140	55.8	2055	16	9	3.6	8.19
Morrall, New York	302	155	51.3	2446	22	12	4.0	8.10
Tarkenton, Minnesota	329	171	52.0	2609	19	11	3.3	7.93
Snead, Philadelphia	288	150	52.1	2346	15	13	4.5	8.15
Meredith, Dallas	305	141	46.2	2415	22	13	4.3	7.92
Gabriel, Los Angeles	173	83	48.0	1321	11	5*	2.9*	7.64
Jurgensen, Washington	356	190	53.4	2367	15	16	4.5	6.65

Standings are based on per cent of completions, touchdown passes, per cent of interceptions and average yards gained. To qualify for championship rating, a player must throw at least 140 passes.

PASS RECEIVING

	Recs	Yards	TDs	Longest	Avg
Parks, San Francisco	80*	1344*	12*	53	16.8
McDonald, Los Angeles	67	1036	9	51	15.5
Retzlaff, Philadelphia	66	1190	10	78	18.0
Mitchell, Washington	60	867	6	80	14.5
Casey, San Francisco	59	765	8	59	13.0
Conrad, St. Louis	58	909	5	71	15.7
Berry, Baltimore	58	739	7	40	12.7
Morris, Chicago	53	846	4	80	16.0

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yards	TDs	Longest	Avg
Boyd, Baltimore	9*	78	1	24	8.7
LeBeau, Detroit	7	84	1	30	12.0
Adderley, Green Bay	6	175*	3*	44	29.2*
Wilson, St. Louis	6	153	1	96*	25.5
Krause, Washington	6	118	0	43	19.7
Sharockman, Minnesota	6	118	1	40	19.7
Ramsey, Philadelphia	6	74	0	24	12.3
Wood, Green Bay	6	65	0	28	10.8

PUNTING

	Punts	Yards	Longest	Avg
Collins, Cleveland	65	3036	71	46.7*
Davis, San Francisco	54	2473	65	45.8
Lambert, Pittsburgh	78*	3518*	69	45.1
Richter, Washington	54	2365	72	43.8
Chandler, Green Bay	74	3175	90*	42.9
Studstill, Detroit	78*	3338	69	42.8
Green, Chicago	58	2477	66	42.7
Walden, Minnesota	51	2147	61	42.1
Baker, Philadelphia	37	1550	60	41.9
Villanueva, Dallas	60	2508	58	41.8

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yards	TDs	Longest	Avg
Kelly, Cleveland	17	265	2*	67	15.6*
Sayers, Chicago	16	238	1	85*	14.9
Harris, Washington	31	377	1	57	12.2
Watkins, Detroit	23	234	0	41	10.2
Haymond, Baltimore	41*	403*	0	55	9.8
Roberts, Cleveland	18	162	0	51	9.0
Alexander, San Francisco	35	262	0	40	7.5
Stiger, Dallas-LA	16	120	0	22	7.5
Renfro, Dallas	24	145	0	35	6.0
Cross, Philadelphia	14	79	0	16	5.6

*1965 NFL leader

THE BIG LEAGUES MAKE PEACE

The bitter feud between the NFL and AFL has finally been resolved, and January, 1967, will see the initial "world championship" encounter between loop kingpins

No matter what the eventual destiny of pro football, 1966 must go down as one of the memorable years in the game. The merger of the National and American Leagues; the ascendancy of Pete Rozelle to the role of the most potent sports administrator in history; the swift arrangement of a "world championship" game in January, all provide a kaleidoscopic background for a move that has changed the game almost as dramatically and drastically as would the addition of another down, a second fullback, or a penalty for an incompletely forward pass.

A decade hence, people will remember 1966 as the year the two leagues got together, the year that peace came to pro football. It *was* peace, all right, although some of the handshakers had to be prodded into making the traditional out-stretched gesture. On both sides there were holdbacks; on both sides there was "never the twain shall meet" thinking.

Money smoothed it out on one hand; the vastly improved position of the AFL did it on the other. Now everyone is equal and the only sting the American League will feel will come once a year when those 20-year payments totaling \$18 million, plus interest, fall due. And on the National League side, the owners of

the New York Giants and San Francisco 49ers will have to live with the idea that having someone selling the same product down the street isn't really too bad.

The late, great NFL Commissioner Bert Bell had two theories on which the tremendous growth of pro football—National League variety—was based, apart from the action on the field. They were (one) absolutely no home TV during home games, and (two) one team to a city, thus barring a possibly tacky situation whereby a home club on the road could televise back while the other home club was playing. The Chicago Cards moved their franchise to St. Louis almost a decade ago for this very reason.

Last winter Bell's successor, Rozelle, after a half-dozen years of prosperity, convinced the NFL owners that TV during a home game—TV of another NFL game, that is—wouldn't be injurious. Most games, he insisted, were sellouts. This would encourage the shut-out viewers to watch NFL football and ignore rival TV fare, implicitly inferior. It had to do with providing more football, so TV could sell more time, so the NFL could get more money for its TV rights, etc.

That in itself was an awesome step. However, rivals who had been mutual targets for total extirpa-

NFL Commissioner Pete Rozelle is flanked by Tex Schramm, left, president of the NFL Dallas Cowboys, and Lamar Hunt, founder of the AFL and president of that league's Kansas City Chiefs, after announcing news of the merger. The decision of the two pro grid loops ended a costly bidding rivalry for talent





The Buffalo Bills will be shooting for an unprecedented third straight AFL title this year. Led by veteran quarterback Jack Kemp, above, and blessed with superb offensive and defensive lines, the Bills have an excellent shot at another crown, and an opportunity to prove something against the NFL's best

THE BIG LEAGUES MAKE PEACE/continued

tion on one weekend became business partners the next. Rozelle is top man. Al Davis, the AFL commissioner, has been consigned, perhaps temporarily, to the nether regions. A great victory, apparently, decorates the crest of the oldest football league.

But is it a great victory? "One more of these victories," snapped a bitter principal to the NFL's announced unanimous decision to merge, "and we are undone. Frankly, I don't think we can stand to have another such victory."

On the AFL's side there were three dissenting votes, not the least vociferous being that of the New York Jets. They had, within the space of three years, built the franchise from bankruptcy into the keystone of the league, with 50,000 attendance averages for home games in Shea Stadium. "Why should we pay to come into their league?" demanded Sonny Werblin, Jets' president. "We don't need them. Maybe they should pay us."

What Werblin meant was that he didn't need the

NFL, perhaps. But how about such watering spots as Denver, Kansas City and Boston? If they didn't need the NFL they certainly needed something.

The pro fan, that much put-upon character who is a frequent subject for crocodile tears, written and radio-yammering divisions, comes out on top in this one. Win or lose he gets his big game early in January, whether he is in Needles, Calif., or N. Brattleboro, Vt. The fact that the TV rights will set a record in this one is incidental. Football has to come to him with its very best and the price will be right.

Not so for this year's crop of collegiate heroes. Their golden showers are over. The common draft, a few weeks before this season ends, takes care of this. The \$250 thousand bonus for a linebacker, the million dollar package for a pair of backs, the yes-yes-yes is gone, along with the "baby sitter." He's the slithery person of peculiar persuasive talents whose sole job was to convince some 22-year-old that everyone in the world was out to skin him, fleece him, cheat him, everyone except, of course, this particular baby sitter. With a common draft and a "you play for us or you don't



Green Bay field general Bart Starr has guided the Packers to four Western Conference wins and three NFL titles in the past six seasons. The Packer dynasty figures to keep rolling in high gear in '66, and if it needs any added incentive this time, there's the guarantee of a crack at the AFL champion

play for anyone, young man" ultimatum, the need for the baby sitter is over.

Actually, there are places to play other than in the super-league and it's not exactly all broken glass and tin cans, either. The Continental League, now in its second year and reaching out for the major markets that will bring a TV package almost automatically, has plenty of salaries that top the previous NFL \$5,000 minimum. The Canadian League has its attractions, too. But the business of buying out some bull-necked kid's father's decrepit motel for five times its value, of wrapping ermine around the shoulders of some adenoidal girlfriend of some campus hotshot, of coming up with the exact upholstery color for the \$6,000 complimentary car, all that is over.

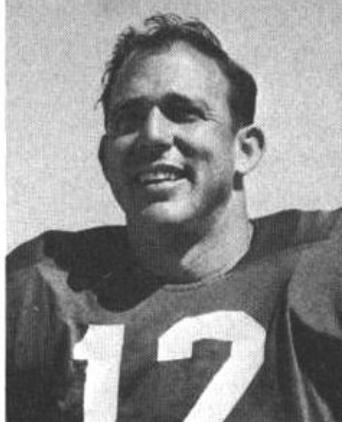
What isn't over, of course, is the implied threat of anti-trust action by some thwarted strongboy, born one year too late. He is going to want to know why someone with his exact talents received exactly 20 times the amount he received to sign only a year earlier? And the cost of living, his lawyer will say, has gone up, not down. You can count on assorted Congressmen to get

into the act, demanding fair play, etc., for their far-flung constituents. They won't be interested in the subsequent headlines. No, of course not.

What the merger has immediately produced is a unit of 24 teams this year, 26 in two years. After that things grow vague, but associates of Rozelle know he feels quite strongly about "even" groups. What could be more "even" than four groups of seven clubs, which adds up to a nice round 28? That would divide the country into four quarters. Baltimore would find itself in the Northeast quadrant, and quite properly, although this would sort of spoil the fun the Bears have had shooting for Johnny Unitas. Maybe they could match them up in early July in a pre-season game.

The merger means increased pressure on baseball. Super-rivalries between top teams in the NFL and AFL which, formerly, had to be ignored, can now be consummated during the height of the baseball season, and on color TV, too. Baseball's years of non-promotion, of sitting back and waiting for the customers, may well prove a costly error. Certainly the merger was bleak news for the baseball lords. □

BY JOHN BRODIE
San Francisco 49ers' Quarterback



With only two pro seasons behind him, split end Dave Parks is an acknowledged NFL super-star

GAME-BREAKER!

John Brodie enjoyed his greatest pro season in 1965, as he led the San Francisco 49ers to a 7-6-1 won-lost mark and fourth place in the Western Conference. But he says he couldn't have done it without a spectacular performance from split end Dave Parks.

Has Dave Parks emerged as a super-star after just two seasons in professional football? I think so, and it isn't simply because of great hands—which he has—but because he has virtually everything else it takes to make it big in his profession. This includes a vital element: a good football team—to which he contributes greatly—and this factor actually spurs him to get the most from his own abilities.

As a quarterback, I'm supposed to know what it takes to be a great receiver. Regardless of whether I do or not, I *do* know what it means to me to have one in the right place at the right time; a man I can depend upon to make the catch if I'm able to do my part. Physically, as I said, Parks has the great hands always present in a top receiver. To boot, he is strong, agile and fast. Technically, he is as good a pattern runner as there is in the game, executing sideline and post maneuvers as well as they can be done.

What's more, he has the competitive spirit, determination and courage that must be present before any man can become a super-star. It is this last quality that makes him what any football team *has* to have to lead the pack: a game breaker like Jimmy Brown or Gale Sayers, men who can go all the way at any time. We depend on Dave for the big play.

All of this is pretty high praise, but I don't think





While the 49er defensive squad is on the field, passer Brodie and receiver Parks watch the action and talk over upcoming moves, opposite page. The Lions' Dick LeBeau, left, jars Dave as soon as he gets his hands on the ball

anybody can punch holes in it. During the past two seasons, Dave has earned the respect of everybody in the game. Here's a good example: Last season, against Green Bay in our final game, we had a battle royal which finally wound up in a 24-24 tie, forcing the Packers into the playoff with Baltimore for the Western Conference title.

Late in the game, I called a pass play which sent Dave on a "flag" pattern (on which the receiver runs a sideline pattern, fakes a cut to the inside, then heads toward the end zone flag). As he cut to the flag, two Green Bay defenders converged on him and tangled him up good. Nobody else was open and I was under pressure, so I threw the ball into the end zone, high and behind Dave, on the outside chance that he could spring loose and get to it. If he didn't, nobody else would. He broke away from the defenders, turned, leaped for the ball, and came down with it for the touchdown. It was a truly great catch. When he came back, he said, "Nice throw, John. That was just where I wanted it." And he meant it. He knew what I had to do, and he knew what he had to do. The fact that it worked didn't astonish Dave.

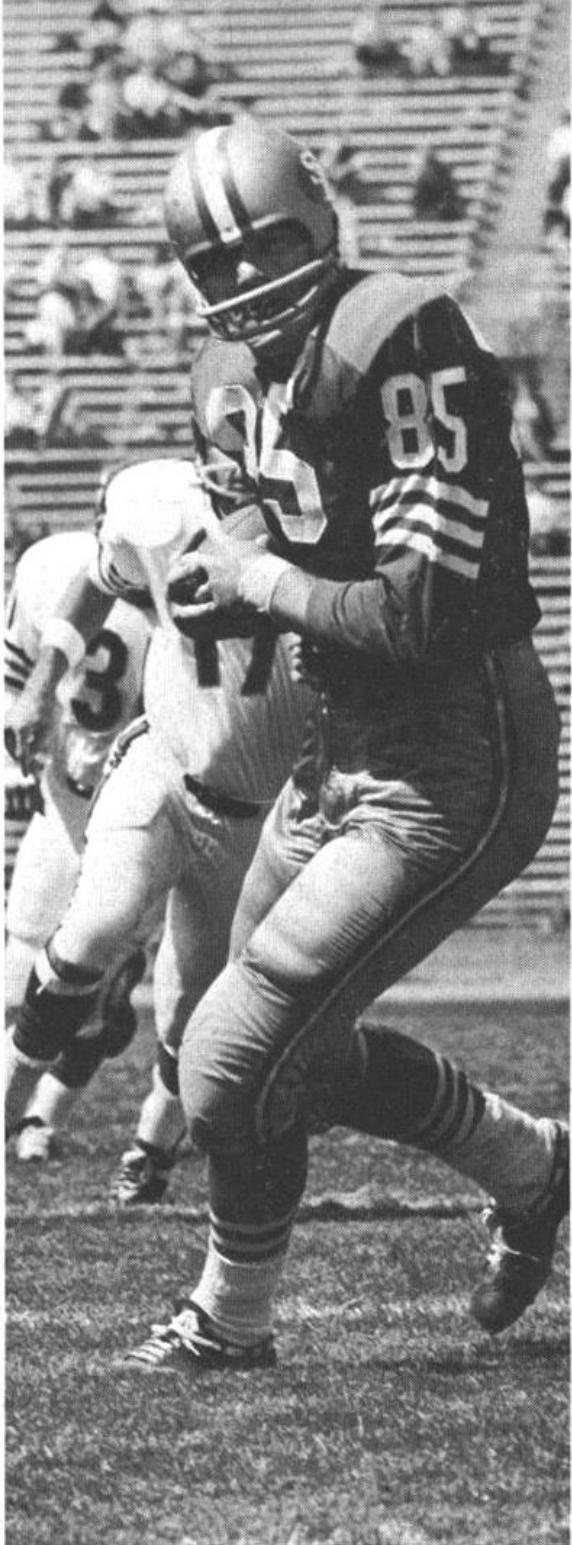
Really, not much does surprise him, yet he seems to have surprised a lot of people—people not in professional football, anyway. In college at Texas Tech,

he was a receiver on a team that didn't throw very much, so he didn't get a whole lot of national recognition—but the pro scouts knew about him. They knew of his speed, his strength and agility, his competitiveness, and they knew that he could also play defense. So, when he was San Francisco's No. 1 choice prior to the 1964 season, many people may have been surprised, but none of them were football people who had seen him play before.

His first season was excellent, although it might not seem so in comparison with last year. Dave caught 32 passes during his rookie year and he had to battle some obstacles to do it. He came to pre-season camp a little heavy, and he didn't have much to say, but, right from the start, he had to be our ace. To make it even tougher, there was no veteran receiver at his spot to help break Dave in. He was "it," and he did a good enough job to be named to the Pro Bowl after the season. The league learned fast that there was a good new football player around.

Last year, he nailed down the super-star label. He caught 80 passes to lead the NFL and set a 49er record. Incidentally, the old record was 60, set by Billy Wilson, who is now our end coach and who, along with quite a few others, has played a big part in Dave's rapid development.

The San Francisco end corps is one of the deadliest in the NFL. In addition to Parks, quarterback John Brodie, shown barking signals, far right, can throw to flanker back Bernie Casey, below, or to his tight end from Notre Dame, big Monty Stickles, right

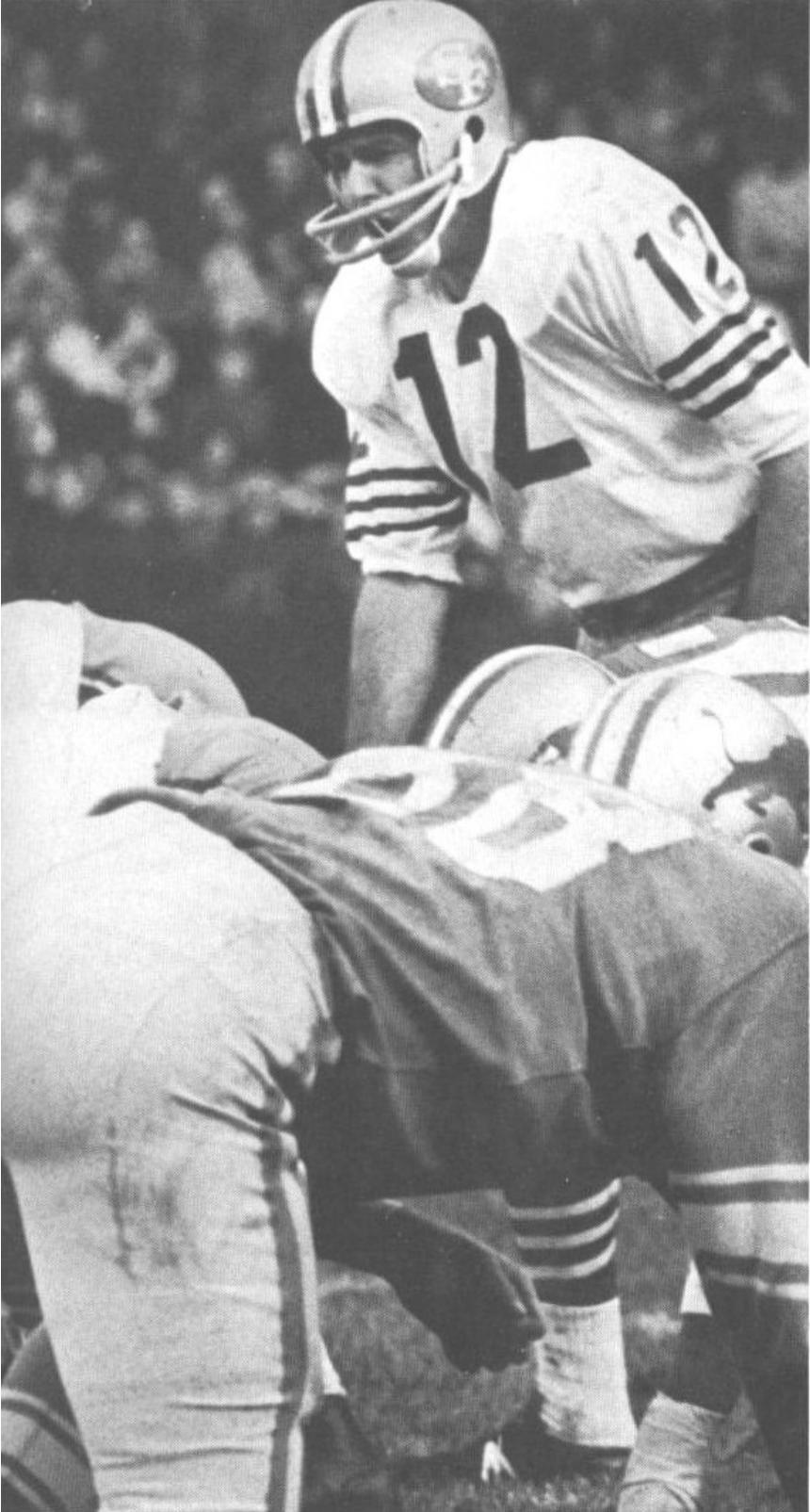


GAME-BREAKER! / continued

Earlier, I said Parks had a pretty good football team from which to get help last year. I'll amplify that by saying that, from my point of view, we have the best offensive front five in the business: tackles Walt Rock and Len Rohde, guards Howard Mudd and John Thomas and center Bruce Bosley. Look at last year's records and you'll see that I was thrown fewer times while trying to pass than any other quarterback in the league. With that kind of protection, I get a lot more time to throw and it gives all of our receivers a better chance to get free. Also up front there is a lot of football player by the name of Monty Stickles, playing

tight end. He keeps the linebackers mad at him most of the game, and don't think that's not helpful!

All of these factors contributed to Dave's fine year, as did a number of other important things. For instance, prior to the 1965 season the 49ers obtained halfback John David Crow in a trade from St. Louis, and selected fullback Ken Willard as No. 1 choice in the draft. The addition of those two to our offensive arsenal was a great boost to Parks' effectiveness. Although neither man is a breakaway runner, each is a dependable weapon. In addition to his other chores, Crow—who is as savvy as they come—acted as a great decoy for Parks. Not many halfbacks can do that. Willard proved to be our first-down runner. He averaged



four yards a carry, amazing for a man who never had a really long run all year.

As our flanker, we have an established NFL star in Bernie Casey. While, understandably, most of the attention went to Dave last year, Bernie was having an outstanding year of his own. He caught 59 passes and made any number of key catches that turned games around for us. Without doubt, Bernie is a star. Because he is, he helped Dave reach the "super" rank. It's unlikely that Dave would have had the year he did without the aid of a flanker of Bernie's caliber.

Look at it this way. When a defensive signal caller considers our offensive lineup, he knows that Crow and Willard are threats not just as runners, but

as receivers. Then, there's Casey on one side, and Parks, the game breaker, on the other. The defense has to play it honest. It can't overplay any one aspect of our attack. This is the kind of thing I mean when I say a lot of people helped Dave to his great year.

I want to add a little about John David Crow, a *real* pro football player. His contributions last year, aside from his yardage, catches and touchdowns, were immeasurable. No matter how efficient we get at it, football is still an emotional game. Friendship with, confidence in, and respect for your teammates are all vital. I don't think there was a man on the squad who didn't feel these things for John David last year. And he was a great factor in the success of Dave Parks.

Parks is the kind of football player who must understand the full picture, must know what everybody is doing and why. Perhaps most important, he has to see just what his particular assignment contributes. Crow knows these things because he has been around a long time and because he is a keen student of the game. He explained a lot about the pro football facts of life to his young friend from Texas.

Many people who have followed professional football and the 49ers for a long time remember Billy Wilson as one of the great receivers in the game. I do, too, because I joined the team while Billy was still playing. There are a number of similarities between Wilson and Parks. They have the same competitive spirit, and Wilson, too, had great hands. Many of Dave's moves are similar to those that made Wilson so effective, but even Billy admits he wasn't the speedster Parks is. Dave has spent a lot of off-season time studying old films of Wilson in action. It has paid off for all of us.

Unquestionably, Parks is now an established star, and he should have great years ahead of him. But, as anyone who has played professional football knows, for any individual player to have a topflight year, all of the factors must be present. Our offense had them last year, and we think it can have them again for quite a few years, if all goes well.

I think this story about Dave really underlines his approach to his profession. From the beginning, Dave was our split end. In his first start as a rookie, a pre-season game, things went pretty badly. He blew patterns, missed blocks, balls were bouncing off his helmet—a real nightmare for him. After the year was over, he sent for the film of that game and ran it over and over. He showed it to a lot of people in his home town of Abilene and at Texas Tech, always with the vow, "I never want to get tied up like that again."

I don't think he ever will . . . and he still has the film of that game. □



The All-Time Exhibition Classic

For those associated with the financial aspects of pro football, it's difficult to lose money any time the New York Giants play the Chicago Bears. Difficult—but not impossible. You can check the sad truth of that unlikely possibility with the maitre d' of a certain very fashionable Toronto cocktail lounge. It's in a hotel which shall be nameless because the man was still working there at last report.

Back in 1960, he figured he had struck upon a

plan to shorten the number of years he'd have to work: Bring American football—or more specifically, two big-name National Football League teams—to sports-minded Toronto. Then he'd just sit back and listen to the pleasing tune of clicking turnstiles.

His enthusiasm rubbed off on a sufficient number of friends, who produced the necessary grubstake. In this case, it was a \$10,000 deposit which was required to bring both the Bears and the Giants from their re-

spective training camps for a Saturday night encounter.

The first the Giants heard about it was a phone call to their camp, then at Winooski, Vt. This was followed by a \$5,000 cashier's check. The arrangement called for another \$5,000 after the game. Over the years, the Giants had played in more unlikely places than Canada's second-largest city. And, after all, half the guarantee was already in the bank.

The same went for the Bears. George Halas has never turned his back on a buck. For years, there were good-natured stories of the tough days when he also never turned his back on anybody who had a piece of his money. In the days of the Decatur Staleys, before the Bears were formed, Halas was player-coach-manager—and co-owner. The other owner, Joey Sternaman, was also a player. There was a standing joke that if, for any reason, either one left the game, the other hustled out too, just to check up.

Halas got his \$5,000 advance, so the Bears were there in Toronto for this early August clash with their traditional Eastern NFL foe. So was a substantial CBS crew, making a TV documentary—the one that helped fashion a distinguished pro career for Sam Huff. Huff was one of a half-dozen excellent linebackers in pro ball at the time but, like it says in the brochures, if you're going to play football, play it in New York. It was in New York that the CBS people called Don Smith, the Giants publicity man, and suggested a documentary underscoring the hard, bruising aspects of earning a living in this manner.

"Violence" was the catchword enjoying heavy popularity along Madison Avenue at that particular time. In one of the conferences regarding the proposed film, some bright young man, enraptured with the gory possibilities, exclaimed, "That's it! Let's call it 'The Violent World of . . . of . . . oh—anybody with the kind of name that'll fit."

Smith recalled the way Huff fitted the picture. "I ran the title over in my mind . . . 'The Violent World of . . . Andy Robustelli'? No, that wouldn't fit . . . 'of Jim Katcavage'? Nope . . . 'Violent World of Sam Huff'? Ah, that had a nice ring."

So Huff became a national figure, overflowing the boundaries of pro football, and fellows like Joe Schmidt, Bill Pellington, Bill George and Matt Hazelton sat back and chewed on their fingers, or on the opposition's facial extremities the rest of the year.

The documentary was better than most, because of the technical knowledge Smith brought to the project, plus the unique method of obtaining Huff's reactions. Tiny mikes were installed in his shoulder pads. Anything Huff said was instantly available, monitored, of course. The most dramatic moment on camera was

when Huff took heated exceptions to something Willard Dewveall, the Chicago end, had done to him. As he moved back to his position he directed a steely glance over his shoulder and, half-pointing, said, "Don't do that again, 88."

The on-the-spot documentary offered a problem or two which received ready cooperation from the officials. For instance, when the Bears belted Huff extra hard on one play, they busted one of the mikes. A pause was ordered while repairs were made. Actually, it didn't inconvenience too many spectators because there weren't too many spectators.

There were a number of reasons for the sad turnout. For one thing, the Canadian football season had already started; for another, the Pittsburgh Steelers had been in town the previous week and had stunk it up with one of those "halfie-halfie" things. That's where they play Canadian rules one half, American rules the next, against the local Canadian club. And thirdly, no Canadians were buying American football at American prices.

The promoter had pressed his son into service as the public-address-system announcer and sat with him in the press box during the first half. The son was voluble, the father quiet. During the intermission, the pair walked out. When play was resumed, there was no one manning the mike. "They musta scrammed with the money," said the proverbial press-box wit. He was only half-right. They had scrammed all right, but there was no money to scram with. In pursuit went Ray Walsh, the dignified business manager of the Giants. Meanwhile, the meaningless exhibition dragged to an inevitable end.

The Giants lost and now all they wanted was to get to the airport, then back to Winooski, where everyone could forget the whole thing. Fifty yards away, Walsh could be seen in earnest conversation with the promoter, who was resorting frequently to a two-handed shrugging gesture. His palms were outstretched, facing upward, and empty.

Jim Lee Howell, the Giants coach, sat tapping his foot. It hadn't been much of an evening. Finally he said, "Start the bus, he'll catch up with us by cab." How right he was! When the Giants got to the airport, they had to feel their way through a fog-shrouded gate. Walsh, with empty pockets, came feeling his way in a cab a short time later.

There was no getting out of Toronto that night. Somehow, the Giants found a motel able to accommodate the sizeable party of 50 players, coaching staff, club group, press and radio. Walsh paid for the lodgings with a check—a good one. Neither the Giants nor the Bears have been in Toronto since.... □



AFL

Continued domination by a pair of long-time juggernauts is the prospectus for the AFL in 1966



EASTERN DIVISION

*Overall excellence—on defense, in the offensive line,
among the receivers—is the happy story here. Prediction: First*

BUFFALO BILLS

1965 RECORD (10-3-1)

24	Boston	7
30	Denver	15
33	New York	21
17	Oakland	12
3	San Diego	34
23	Kansas City	7
31	Denver	13
17	Houston	19
23	Boston	7
17	Oakland	14
20	San Diego	20
29	Houston	18
34	Kansas City	25
12	New York	14

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Gogolak	0	31	28	115
Carlton	7	0	0	42
Joe	6	0	0	36
Warner	4	0	0	24
Kemp	4	0	0	24

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Carlton	156	592	6	3.8
Joe	123	377	4	3.1
Smith	42	136	1	3.2

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Kemp	388	179	2358	10	18	45.8
Lamonica	70	29	376	3	6	41.4

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Roberson	31	483	3	15.3
Joe	27	271	2	10.0
Carlton	24	196	1	8.2
Costa	21	401	0	19.1

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Clarke	7	60	40	8.6
Byrd	5	119	62	23.8
Warner	5	84	23	16.8
Edgerson	5	55	19	11.0

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Maguire	80	3437	68	43.0

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Byrd	22	220	30	10.0
Rutkowski	11	127	33	11.5

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Warner	32	828	102	25.9
Rutkowski	5	97	23	19.4

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	Comments
Bass, Glenn (S)	6-2	206	27	6	East Carolina	
Rutkowski, Ed (S-F)	6-1	208	25	4	Notre Dame	
Ferguson, Charley (S)	6-5	224	26	6	Tennessee State	
Costa, Paul (T)	6-5	256	24	2	Notre Dame	
Warlick, Ernie (T)	6-3	235	34	9	N. Car. College	
Dubencion, Elbert (F)	6-0	190	31	7	Bluffton	
Crockett, Bobby (F)	6-0	195	22	1	Arkansas	
(S)—Split end						
(T)—Tight end						
(F)—Flanker						

INTERIOR LINEMEN

Hudson, Dick (T)	6-4	279	26	5	Memphis State	
Barber, Stew (T)	6-2	251	27	6	Penn State	
DeSutter, Wayne (T)	6-4	250	21	1	Western Illinois	
Earhart, Bill (T)	6-4	250	22	1	Bowling Green	
Shaw, Billy (G)	6-3	260	27	6	Georgia Tech	
O'Donnell, Joe (G)	6-2	252	25	3	Michigan	
Prudhomme, Remi (G)	6-5	260	24	1	Louisiana State	
Bemiller, Al (C-G)	6-4	242	27	6	Syracuse	
Behrman, Dave (C)	6-5	265	24	4	Michigan State	
(T)—Tackle						
(G)—Guard						
(C)—Center						

QUARTERBACKS

Kemp, Jack	6-0	201	30	10	Occidental	
Lamonica, Daryle	6-3	218	25	4	Notre Dame	
Kent, Mailon	6-2	195	24	1	Auburn	

RUNNING BACKS

Carlton, Wray (F)	6-1	230	29	8	Duke	
Goodwin, Doug (F)	6-2	228	23	1	Maryland State	
Burnett, Bob (H)	6-2	208	23	1	Arkansas	
Smith, Bob (H)	6-2	215	24	3	N. Texas State	
Ross, Willie (H)	5-11	211	25	3	Nebraska	
Bailey, Bill (H)	6-0	215	22	1	Cincinnati	
(F)—Fullback						
(H)—Halfback						

KICKER

With Pete Gogolak gone to the Giants, this specialty spot is up for grabs—but good.

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN

McDole, Ron (E)	6-4	285	26	6	Nebraska	
Day, Tom (E)	6-2	250	30	7	N. Carolina A&T	
Schmidt, Henry (E)	6-4	255	28	8	U.S.C.	
Sestak, Tom (T)	6-4	272	30	5	McNeese State	
Dunaway, Jim (T)	6-4	279	24	4	Mississippi	
Meredith, Dudley (T)	6-4	285	31	4	Lamar Tech	
(E)—End						
(T)—Tackle						

LINEBACKERS

Stratton, Mike (O)	6-3	235	25	5	Tennessee	
Tracey, John (O)	6-2	228	33	8	Texas A&M	
Maguire, Paul (O)	6-0	228	27	7	Citadel	
Laskey, Bill (O)	6-2	240	23	2	Michigan	
Schot'h'mer, Marty (M-O)	6-3	225	22	2	Pitt	
Jacobs, Harry (M)	6-1	225	29	7	Bradley	
(O)—Outside linebacker						
(M)—Middle linebacker						

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Byrd, Butch (C)	6-0	211	24	3	Boston U.	
Edgerson, Booker (C)	5-10	180	27	5	Western Illinois	
Warner, Charley (C)	6-0	172	26	4	Prairie View	
King, Charley (C)	6-0	185	23	1	Purdue	
Saimes, George (S)	5-10	185	24	4	Michigan State	
Clarke, Hagoold (S)	6-0	202	24	3	Florida	
Sykes, Gene (S)	6-1	201	24	4	Louisiana State	
Janik, Tom (S)	6-3	200	25	4	Texas A&I	
(C)—Corner back						
(S)—Safety						



League MVP Jack Kemp hands off to Buffalo teammate Wray Carlton as an off-tackle play gets started. Billy Shaw (66) moves over to throw a block and tackle Stew Barber (foreground) moves out the Oakland defensive end

Joe Collier is spooked by intangibles in his first season as head coach of the champion Buffalo Bills.

At 33 he's the youngest head coach in pro football. He has a difficult act to follow—Lou Saban's. Saban won an AFL title in each of his last two years before defecting to the University of Maryland.

Then there is historical precedent. No pro football team, with the sole exception of the 1946-49 Cleveland Browns of the old All-America Conference, has ever won more than two consecutive championships.

The Bills still have the overall balance, strong defense and sufficient reserves to repeat in the Eastern Division. But Saban passed along at least one real problem that restricts the Bills' attack: Buffalo still doesn't have an outside runner, and only fullback Wray Carlton has a pedigree as a solid pro back.

Saban used another fullback, Billy Joe, as Carlton's running mate last year, but Joe went to Miami in the expansion draft. Joe's job is inherited by Bobby Smith, and if Smith's tendency to drop the ball in key situations makes him too much of a liability, the job could go to rookie Bobby Burnett, who scored 16 touchdowns for Arkansas in 1965.

Burnett, however, was the deep back in Arkansas' I formation and did not get much blocking experience. In Collier's view, this puts him a year away.

Lack of really outstanding ground forces could be offset by the recovery of wide receivers Glenn Bass and Elbert Dubenion. Both were on their way to big seasons when injuries struck them down in early games.

Without them, Jack Kemp's passing game became a hunt-and-peck affair. Nevertheless, Kemp supervised 11 victories and was voted the league's MVP.

While Bass and Duby were non-combatants, Kemp discovered a new bread-and-butter receiver, rookie tight end Paul Costa. At 6-5 and 256 pounds, Costa is the biggest eligible receiver in the sport.

The Bills still have just about the best offensive line in the AFL, but it will be a bit thinner if center Dave Behrman can't shake his back injury.

If Behrman can't go, guard Al Bemiller moves to center, with Joe O'Donnell or rookie Remi Prudhomme taking over at guard.

Defensively the Bills seem to have it all. The hold-'em unit could assure their third straight appearance on championship day. □

EASTERN DIVISION

Enough veterans to hold the team together, but too many problems to be a threat for the top spot Prediction: Second

BOSTON PATRIOTS

1965 RECORD (4-8-2)

7	Buffalo	24
10	Houston	31
10	Denver	27
17	Kansas City	27
10	Oakland	24
13	San Diego	13
21	Oakland	30
22	San Diego	6
7	Buffalo	23
20	New York	30
10	Kansas City	10
27	New York	23
28	Denver	20
42	Houston	14

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Cappelletti	9	27	17	132
Nance	5	0	0	30
Garrett	3	0	0	18
Colclough	3	0	0	18
Burton	3	0	0	18

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Nance	111	321	5	2.9
Garron	75	263	1	3.5
Parilli	49	179	0	3.7
Garrett	40	151	1	3.8

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Parilli	426	173	2592	17	26	40.6
Wilson	40	26	257	1	3	43.5

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Colclough	40	677	3	16.9
Cappelletti	37	675	9	18.4
Graham	25	316	0	12.6
Whalen	22	381	0	17.3

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Hall	4	35	29	8.8
Buoniconti	3	31	26	10.3

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Yewcic	74	3048	70	42.8

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Burton	18	61	12	3.4
Cunningham	5	23	13	4.6

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Cunningham	16	364	45	22.7
Garrett	12	232	25	19.3

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Graham, Art (S)	6-1	205	25	4	Boston College
Whalen, Jim (T)	6-2	210	22	2	Boston College
Romeo, Tony (T)	6-2	230	28	7	Florida State
Cappelletti, Gino (F)	6-0	190	32	7	Minnesota
Johnson, Ellis (F)	6-2	190	22	2	S. E. Louisiana
Bellino, Joe (F)	5-9	185	28	2	Navy
(S)—Split end	(T)—Tight end	(F)—Flanker			

Comments
Can Graham stay healthy enough to produce at split end? Is Whalen big enough for tight end? Can Johnson snap back after knee surgery? Is Bellino washed up? Pats had better get some affirmative answers. Cappy shouldn't have to start. RATING—FAIR

INTERIOR LINEMEN

Neville, Tom (T)	6-4	230	22	2	Mississippi State
Oakes, Don (T)	6-3	255	27	6	Virginia Tech
Singer, Karl (T)	6-3	245	22	1	Purdue
Long, Charley (G)	6-3	250	27	6	Chattanooga
Canale, Justin (G)	6-2	230	22	2	Mississippi State
Arrington, Dick (G)	5-11	245	22	1	Notre Dame
St. Jean, Len (G)	6-1	240	24	3	No. Michigan
Morris, Jon (C)	6-2	240	23	3	Holy Cross
Avezzano, Joe (C-G)	6-2	235	22	1	Florida State
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center			

Offense perked up when Neville and Canale won spurs. Morris is real star of this line. Only Oakland's Otto is in his class. Long is tough, steady guard. Some knowledgeable scouts called Singer best offensive lineman in college football. He figures in some position. Size is only thing that holds Arrington back. If he isn't tall enough for guard he'll get audition as linebacker. RATING—FAIR

QUARTERBACKS

Parilli, Babe	6-0	190	36	13	Kentucky
Huarte, John	6-0	190	22	1	Notre Dame
Yewcic, Tom	6-0	185	32	6	Michigan State

At 36, Parilli's effectiveness has to be questioned. If Babe falters at start Huarte must be used. Future rests with him. RATING—FAIR

RUNNING BACKS

Nance, Jim (F)	6-1	245	23	2	Syracuse
Cappadonna, Bob (F)	6-1	230	23	1	Northeastern
Hayes, Dave (F)	6-3	225	25	1	Penn State
Carr, Tom (F)	6-1	230	22	1	Bates
Garron, Larry (H)	6-0	195	29	7	Western Illinois
Garrett, J. D. (H)	5-11	195	24	3	Grambling
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

Nance's weight problem is issue here. If he's in top form Garron teams with him for explosive running game. If he's unable to perform at peak, Garron must switch to full. Garrett hasn't played as expected. Cappadonna is an interesting newcomer. RATING—GOOD

KICKER

Cappelletti, Gino	6-0	190	32	7	Minnesota
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'65: 17 of 27 FG atts. RATING—EXCELLENT

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN

Dee, Bob (E)	6-4	240	30	9	Holy Cross
Eisenhower, Larry (E)	6-5	250	26	6	Boston College
Boudreaux, Jim (E)	6-4	245	21	1	Louisiana Tech
Antwine, Houston (T)	6-0	270	27	6	So. Illinois
Hunt, Jim (T)	5-11	245	28	7	Prairie View
Pyne, George (T)	6-4	285	23	2	Olivet
Mangum, John (T)	6-3	275	22	1	Southern Miss.
Irby, Dan (T)	6-1	245	21	1	Louisiana Tech
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle				

There's a big hole at tackle alongside Antwine. Holovak is hoping Mangum and Irby, tough small-college stars, can fill it. Dee should be slipping at this stage of his career but younger Eisenhower did the backsliding. Ike should snap back, however. Just in case, Pats made rugged Boudreaux their second draft pick. They're banking on youth. RATING—FAIR

LINEBACKERS

Addison, Tom (O)	6-2	230	30	8	South Carolina
Fraser, Jim (O)	6-3	235	29	6	Wisconsin
Farmer, Lon (O)	6-0	220	25	3	Chattanooga
Dukes, Mike (O)	6-3	235	30	8	Clemson
Buoniconti, Nick (M)	5-11	220	25	5	Notre Dame
Satcher, Doug (M)	6-0	220	22	1	Southern Miss.
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker				

Illness left Addison weak for three-quarters of season. He finished well, however. Jack Rudolph's departure leaves way clear for Jim Fraser, who came in Ron Burton trade. Buoniconti is unquestionably AFL's best middle man. Farmer will press Fraser. RATING—GOOD

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Webb, Don (C)	5-10	200	26	6	Iowa State
Hennessey, Tom (C)	6-0	180	25	2	Holy Cross
Cunningham, Jay (C)	5-10	180	23	2	Bowling Green
Felt, Dick (C)	6-1	185	29	7	Brigham Young
White, Graves (S)	6-0	185	23	2	Louisiana State
Hall, Ron (S)	6-0	190	27	7	Missouri Valley
Shonta, Chuck (S)	6-0	200	28	7	Eastern Michigan
Purvis, Vic (S)	5-11	190	21	1	Southern Miss.
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety				

The party line has it there are leaks here, but they look more like gaping holes. Webb is strongest corner back and he's competent, at best. Hennessey had in-and-out rookie year. Felt is trying comeback after thigh injury kept him out in '65. Hall makes safety a bit brighter, but inexperienced White is partner. Shonta moves from corner. RATING—POOR



Gino Cappelletti (20) takes a pass between Buffalo linebacker Harry Jacobs (64) and defensive back Booker Edgerson (24). Gino's prime value to his club is as a field-goal and extra-point kicker, more than as a receiver

A mixture of too much age and an abundance of youth makes the Boston Patriots a questionable concoction.

Babe Parilli is 36-years-old and is coming off a bad year. The only suitable man behind him is John Huarte, who won a Heisman Trophy at Notre Dame, then observed Joe Namath from a seat on the New York Jets' taxi squad as a pro rookie.

If Parilli is all washed up and Huarte isn't ready, 1966 could be a year of catastrophe for the Pats.

There are parallels throughout the roster. Gino Cappelletti is a devastating field-goal kicker, but if he has to play regularly as a flanker or split end, the passing game is reduced to nickle-and-dime patterns on his side. Nevertheless, Gino may start if Art Graham is invalidated by one of his many injuries or if Ellis Johnson hasn't recovered from knee surgery.

The only other possibility is Joe Bellino, who looked as if he had lost his Navy magic during four years in the service.

The Pats' running game should be perked up if sophomore fullback Jim Nance stays in shape. The former Syracuse ace averaged about five yards per carry as Boston won its last four games in '65.

If Nance captures the fullback post, then Larry Garron can switch to halfback, a job he is better suited, physically, to handle.

Coach Mike Holovak started rebuilding his offensive line late last year, using rookies Justin Canale at guard, Tom Neville at tackle and Jim Whalen at tight end. He may continue the trend with prize newcomers Karl Singer of Purdue and Dick Arrington of Notre Dame. Singer was the No. 1 draft choice.

Another touted rookie, defensive end Jim Boudreax of Northeast Louisiana, will get a thorough trial. So will John Mangum of Mississippi Southern and John Irby of Louisiana Tech, both tackles.

Middle linebacker Nick Buoniconti and outside man Tommy Addison are safe, but there's an opening across from Addison. Jim Fraser, acquired from Kansas City, or Lon Farmer probably will fill it.

Holovak's two biggest projects are generating a more potent scoring punch and repairing the secondary. The latter may be Mike's Twilight Zone.

Even if he's successful, Holovak will be haunted by injuries. The Miami draft left the Pats perilously thin, and injuries could decimate them. □

EASTERN DIVISION

The distant future is bright, but this campaign might be too early for Namath to carry the club to a flag Prediction: Third

NEW YORK JETS

1965 RECORD (5-8-1)

21	Houston	27
10	Kansas City	14
21	Buffalo	33
13	Denver	16
24	Oakland	24
9	San Diego	34
45	Denver	10
13	Kansas City	10
30	Boston	20
41	Houston	14
23	Boston	27
7	San Diego	38
14	Oakland	24
14	Buffalo	12

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
J. Turner	0	31	20	91
Maynard	14	0	0	84
Mathis	6	0	0	36
Snell	4	0	0	24

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Snell	169	763	4	4.5
Mathis	147	604	5	4.1
Smolinski	24	59	0	2.5
Carson	7	25	2	3.6

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Namath	340	164	2220	18	15	48.2
Taliaferro	119	45	531	3	7	37.8

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Maynard	68	1218	14	17.9
Snell	38	264	0	6.9
B. Turner	31	402	2	13.0
Sauer	29	301	2	10.4

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Paulson	7	72	22	10.3
West	6	57	28	9.5
Baird	3	9	9	3.0

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Johnson	72	3260	73	45.3

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Baird	14	88	23	6.3
West	10	34	9	3.4

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
B. Turner	18	402	32	22.3
Carson	14	311	30	22.2

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Maynard, Don (F)	6-1	179	28	9	Texas Western
Colclough, Jim (F-S)	6-0	185	28	7	Boston College
Evans, Jim (F)	6-1	190	26	3	Texas Western
Sauer, George (S)	6-2	206	23	2	Texas
Turner, Bache (S)	6-1	179	26	5	Texas Tech
Mackey, Dee (T)	6-5	236	31	7	E. Texas State
Heeter, Gene (T)	6-4	230	25	4	West Virginia
Yearby, Bill (T)	6-3	230	22	1	Michigan
Lammons, Pete (T)	6-3	225	22	1	Texas
(S)—Split end					
(T)—Tight end					
(F)—Flanker					

Comments
Maynard, on the verge of exile in August, revived to catch 68 passes and score 14 TDs. Colclough is slow-footed but sure-handed. Sauer is best future bet. Playing tight end retarded his development. Big experiment has Yearby, college defensive tackle, trying tight end. Lammons or Heeter could win the job. Yearby and Lammons should play somewhere. Pete's a sleeper. RATING—FAIR

INTERIOR LINEMEN					
Hill, Winston (T)	6-4	275	24	4	Texas Southern
Plunkett, Sherman (T)	6-2	300	32	9	Maryland State
DeFelice, Nick (T)	6-3	250	26	2	Southern Conn.
Hollister, Ken (T)	6-4	238	22	1	Indiana
DeLuca, Sam (G)	6-2	250	30	9	South Carolina
Herman, Dave (G)	6-2	255	24	3	Michigan State
Ficca, Dan (G)	6-1	245	27	5	U.S.C.
Werl, Bob (G)	6-3	240	23	1	Miami (Fla.)
Perreault, Pete (G)	6-3	245	27	5	Boston U.
Waskiewicz, Jim (C)	6-4	227	22	1	Wichita
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center			

This is Ewbank's biggest trouble area. Only exciting new blood is furnished by Waskiewicz. Coaches like Herman. He came fast at mid-season. Plunkett, De Luca and Ficca fall into the journeyman class. There's still hope for Hill's progress. Werl, defensive end in college, could surprise at guard. Hollister, DeFelice could provide needed depth. It's the same old story: good pass protection but not enough skill for a balanced attack. RATING—POOR

QUARTERBACKS					
Namath, Joe	6-2	191	23	2	Alabama
Taliaferro, Mike	6-2	205	24	3	Illinois
RUNNING BACKS					
Mathis, Bill (H)	6-1	220	27	7	Clemson
Boozer, Emerson (H)	5-11	215	23	1	Maryland State
Carson, Kern (H)	6-1	200	23	2	San Diego State
Smith, Allen (H)	5-11	195	22	1	Findlay
Johnson, Curley (H)	6-1	215	31	9	Houston
Snell, Matt (F)	6-2	220	24	3	Ohio State
Smolinski, Mark (F)	6-1	215	26	6	Wyoming
Iacavazzi, Cosmo (F)	5-11	209	23	2	Princeton
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

Snell's performance dipped from '64. He battled variety of injuries, though. Mathis had one of his better years and he's still young. Then the quality falls. Boozer and Smith are sleepers. Carson, Johnson and Smo are fill-ins, but Curley's punting is first-rate. Cosmo lacks speed and size. Injuries would be disastrous in this department. RATING—GOOD

KICKER					
Turner, Jim	6-2	205	25	3	Utah State
DEFENSE					

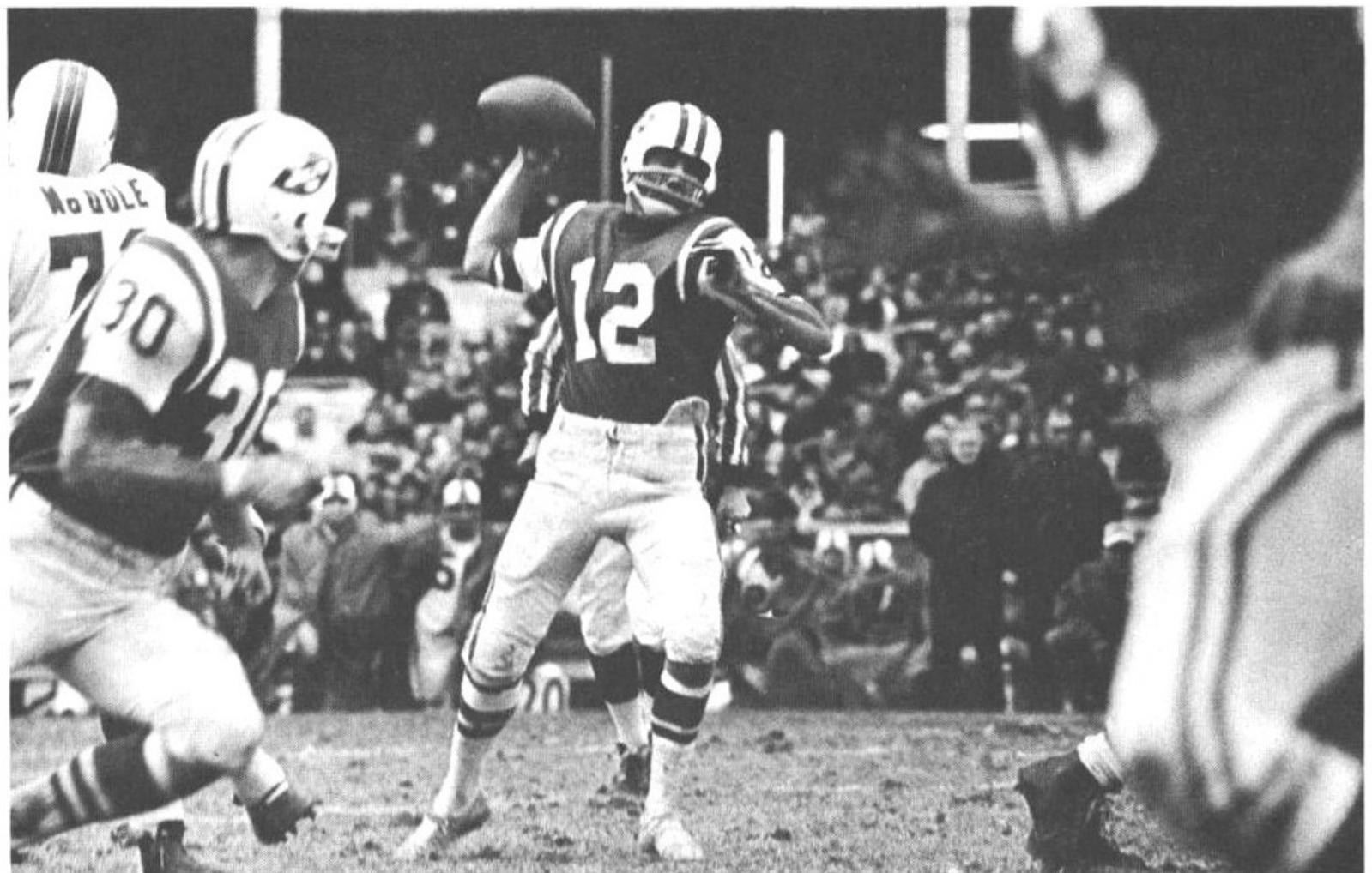
Only lack of dedication can keep Biggs from becoming one of league's best. Philbin's a pluggger, but he has trouble getting to enemy quarterbacks. Development of Harris in last seven games cheered Weeb. Rochester had an exceptional year. Depth and spotty pass rush are minuses. RATING—GOOD

LINEBACKERS					
Baker, Ralph (O)	6-3	228	24	3	Penn State
Grantham, Larry (O)	6-0	206	28	7	Mississippi
O'Mahoney, Jim (O)	6-1	228	25	2	Miami (Fla.)
Crane, Paul (O)	6-2	205	22	1	Alabama
Atkinson, Al (M)	6-2	230	22	2	Villanova
McAdams, Carl (M)	6-3	220	22	1	Oklahoma
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker				

McAdams has to play somewhere. If Atkinson produces, the big rookie will be tried outside. Al must master pass defense, however. Grantham had sub-par season but could rebound. Baker's potential remains high. Crane was collegiate offensive ace. RATING—FAIR

DEFENSIVE BACKS					
Gordon, Cornell (C)	6-0	187	24	2	N. Carolina A&T
Baird, Bill (C-S)	5-10	180	27	4	San Fran. State
Washington, Clyde (C)	6-1	206	28	5	Purdue
Gray, Jim (C)	6-0	180	24	1	Toledo
Paulson, Dainard (S)	6-0	190	29	6	Oregon State
Abruzzese, Ray (S)	6-1	194	28	5	Alabama
Hudson, Jim (S)	6-2	210	23	2	Texas
Schweikert, Bob (S)	6-1	190	23	2	Virginia Tech
Mosher, Jerry (S)	6-1	195	22	1	California
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety				

Gordon was a pleasant rookie surprise in '65. Other corner is a problem. It could be solved if Gray, out last year, rebounds. Paulson's still a star. Hudson, hindered by pneumonia as a rookie, has a big future. Abruzzese, ex-Bill, helps. Defense may be Schweikert's last stop. Pass defense gets criticized, but a more aggressive rush and help from linebackers would improve it. RATING—FAIR



The Jets' future rides on the golden arm of bonus-rich Joe Namath (12), getting ready to pass. Billy Mathis (30) circles to get into the clear and Roland McDole (72) of the Bills fights to get clear of a block and break up the play

The New York Jets don't have a first-rate offensive lineman. The Miami Dolphins, the newest AFL club, have a better group of pass receivers. The Jets defense needs something only experience can give it. Yet the rest of the AFL's Eastern Division is more than a little wary of Sonny Werblin's employees. Or maybe "employees" should be singular.

Smart money in the league thinks the Jets could challenge the Buffalo Bills if quarterback Joe Namath gets merely adequate help from his teammates. Werblin's \$400,000 baby already is considered the AFL's best quarterback in his sophomore season. And, after the pro owners are through casting their bread upon collegiate waters this year, Namath may look like the bargain of the decade.

"You have to be concerned about New York as long as Namath is the quarterback," is the way Boston Patriots' coach Mike Holovak puts it.

Because Joe Willie has a lightning release and finds his receivers quickly, opposing linemen rarely lay violent hands upon him. His protection could improve, too, if guard Dave Herman keeps maturing and rookie Jim Waskiewicz produces at center.

Inconsistent Don Maynard had a good year, catching 14 touchdown passes, but he's the only receiver with credentials. Young George Sauer has possibilities at split end, but coach Weeb Ewbank is hoping a college tackle, Michigan's Bill Yearby, can play tight end. Yearby was the No. 1 draft choice.

If Namath finds someone to hang onto his delivery, the Jets should have a balanced offense. The ingredients for a respectable running game are there. Matt Snell is a fine fullback and Billy Mathis a hard-running halfback. Mathis could be challenged by rookie Emerson Boozer.

It's defense where the questions are raised. Even the immediate stardom of rookie Carl McAdams, a strong possibility, may not cure what ails the Jets at linebacker. Ewbank was happy with development in his youthful defensive line, but only end Verlon Biggs gets to the passer with any degree of regularity.

Weeb uncovered two good defensive backs in corner Cornell Gordon and safety Jim Hudson last year, but he's badly in need of a mate for Gordon.

The Jets have the nucleus for a future winner—say 1968. But Namath could revise that schedule. □

EASTERN DIVISION

*Only the most dedicated optimists will find hope here,
and optimism doesn't put points on the board Prediction: Fourth*

HOUSTON OILERS

1965 RECORD (4-10)

27	New York	21
31	Boston	10
17	Oakland	21
14	San Diego	31
17	Denver	28
38	Kansas City	36
19	Buffalo	17
21	Oakland	33
21	Denver	31
14	New York	41
21	Kansas City	52
18	Buffalo	29
26	San Diego	37
14	Boston	42

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Blanda	0	28	11	61
W. Frazier	8	0	0	48
Burrell	7	2*	0	46
C. Frazier	6	0	0	36

* Caught two-point conversion pass

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Burrell	130	528	3	4.1
Tolar	73	230	0	3.1
Spikes	47	173	3	3.6
Trull	29	145	2	5.0
Jackson	37	85	2	2.3

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Blanda	442	186	2542	20	30	42.1
Trull	107	38	528	5	5	35.5

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Burrell	55	650	4	11.8
Hennigan	41	578	4	14.1
C. Frazier	38	717	6	18.9
W. Frazier	37	521	8	14.1

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Hicks	9	156	31	17.3
Norton	7	52	18	7.4

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Norton	84	3711	65	44.2

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Jancik	12	85	25	7.1
Glick	7	44	13	6.3

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Jancik	18	430	43	23.9
Jaquess	13	280	69	21.5

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Frazier, Charley (S)	6-0	175	24	5	Texas Southern
Compton, Dick (S)	6-1	195	25	5	McMurry
McLeod, Bob (T)	6-5	230	26	6	Abilene Christian
Hennigan, Charley (F)	6-1	187	29	7	N. W. Louisiana
Elkins, Larry (F)	6-1	190	22	1	Baylor
Kinderman, Keith (F)	6-0	215	25	5	Florida State
(S)—Split end	(T)—Tight end				(F)—Flanker

Comments

If Elkins' knee is mended, Oilers' offense could be potent. Hennigan is due for comeback after sub-par year. McLeod was a capable backup last year, would appear to be first-string with Willie Frazier gone. Charley Frazier is tremendously improved. RATING—GOOD

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Michael, Rich (T)	6-3	242	26	6	Ohio State
Suggs, Walt (T)	6-5	245	25	5	Mississippi State
Allen, George (T)	6-7	245	21	1	W. Texas State
Hines, Glenn Ray (T)	6-5	255	22	1	Arkansas
Bishop, Sonny (G)	6-2	245	25	5	Fresno State
Talamini, Bob (G)	6-1	255	26	7	Kentucky
Wittenborn, John (G)	6-2	240	29	9	S. E. Missouri
Frazier, Wayne (C)	6-3	245	26	3	Auburn
Frongillo, John (C)	6-3	255	25	5	Baylor
Neely, Ralph (T)	6-5	257	22	2	Oklahoma
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard				(C)—Center

What Lemm needs is a center and tackles to complement his outstanding guards, Bishop and Talamini. Bob's a regular on All-League team. Two rookie tackles, Hines and Allen, could start. Often-injured Wayne Frazier might improve. Frongillo will challenge him. Michael and Suggs are the incumbent tackles, but Oilers need someone who can keep Trull and Lee from destruction. Improvement is vital in this area. Neely will help (if he stays). RATING—FAIR

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Trull, Don	6-1	190	23	3	Baylor
Lee, Jacky	6-1	190	27	7	Cincinnati
Blanda, George	6-2	220	37	17	Kentucky

Lemm says No. 1 job is a three-way battle, but Blanda doesn't figure in future plans. Trull or Lee must play. RATING—POOR

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Jackson, Bob (F)	6-3	238	27	5	New Mex. State
Tolar, Charley (F)	5-6	200	26	7	N. W. Louisiana
Granger, Hoyle (F)	6-1	225	21	1	Mississippi State
Burrell, Ode (H)	6-0	185	25	3	Mississippi State
Blanks, Sid (H)	6-0	205	23	2	Texas A&I
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

Burrell continues to amaze. If Blanks makes comeback after year out due to knee injury, Lemm will have even more to work with. Granger could be the big fullback Oilers have waited seven years for. RATING—GOOD

KICKER

KICKER	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Blanda, George	6-2	220	37	17	Kentucky

'65: 11 of 21 FG attempts. RATING—GOOD

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Floyd, Don (E)	6-4	245	26	7	Texas Christian
Cutsinger, Gary (E)	6-4	245	25	5	Oklahoma State
Kinney, George (E)	6-4	250	22	2	Wylie
Appleton, Scott (T)	6-3	255	23	3	Texas
Hayes, Jim (T)	6-4	260	24	2	Jackson State
Husmann, Ed (T)	6-2	242	33	12	Nebraska
Holmes, Pat (T)	6-5	270	25	4	Texas Tech
Rice, George (T)	6-3	265	21	1	Louisiana State
Ladd, Ernie (T)	6-9	295	28	6	Grambling
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle				
(M)—Middle linebacker	(S)—Safety				

Maples muscled his way into lineup as rookie. If Baker can stay healthy he would be an ideal accomplice. Brabham should be a lot better than he's shown. Caveness could battle Cline at vital middle spot. RATING—FAIR

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Hicks, W. K. (C)	6-1	185	22	3	Texas Southern
Banfield, Tony (C)	6-1	185	27	6	Oklahoma State
Jancik, Bobby (C)	5-11	178	25	5	Lamar Tech
Menefee, Hartwell (C)	6-2	198	23	1	New Mex. State
Glick, Fred (S)	6-1	190	28	8	Colorado State
Norton, Jim (S)	6-3	190	26	7	Idaho
Onesti, Larry (S)	6-0	198	26	7	Northwestern
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety				

Here's chance for rookies. Only Hicks at corner and Glick at safety are sure of jobs. W. K. led AFL in interceptions. Banfield's play dropped off after knee surgery. He'll get final chance from Lemm. Oilers can do better than Norton. Onesti, too light for linebacker, tries here. He's got the desire. RATING—POOR



Houston running back Ode Burrell (25) cuts for the open field as Boston's Bob Dee (89) and Tom Hennessey (30) try to head him off. Throwing the block for Burrell is Oiler guard Bob Talamini, one of the stalwarts of the Houston line

How effective will be the Houston Oilers' publicized "New Era"? It is supposed to move owner Bud Adams discreetly into the background and leave the driving to the football folk, namely Don Klosterman, the new GM, and Wally Lemm, the new head coach.

Lemm returns to Houston after four seasons with the St. Louis Cardinals in the National League. Wally has the distinction of being the only undefeated coach in AFL history, winning the last nine after Lou Rymkus was bounced early in 1961. That should change quickly; Wally will be honored as a genius if he reaches .500.

The Oilers harvested an interesting rookie crop. They drafted heavily for linemen and came up with tackles George Rice of LSU, Glenn Ray Hines of Arkansas and George Allen of West Texas State. And fullback Hoyle Granger of Mississippi State could be the short-yardage specialist they need. In addition, there is last year's No. 1 pick, flanker Larry Elkins of Baylor. He cracked up a knee in the first exhibition game and missed the whole season.

Klosterman also traded for Arkansas linebacker Ron Caveness. Pat Holmes, Canadian League All Star

tackle, was signed after he played out his option with the Calgary Stampeders.

The Oilers would get a large lift if Sid Blanks' knee has mended well. He was a rookie halfback sensation in 1964, but the gimpy knee made him a spectator all last year.

Lemm's biggest problem obviously is at quarterback. Chaos in the previous administration held up the progress of young Don Trull. He'll probably duel with Jacky Lee, returned from Denver after two years of exile as a result of a lend-lease deal. George Blanda is sure only of the place-kicking assignment.

The Oilers have possibilities for the future, thanks to a number of young, potentially outstanding players—halfback Ode Burrell, linebackers Bobby Maples and Johnny Baker, defensive back W. K. Hicks, defensive tackle (and bonus baby) Scott Appleton and guard Sonny Bishop.

Then there are a handful of top veterans like safety Fred Glick, flanker Charley Hennigan, guard Bob Talamini and defensive end Don Floyd. Lemm still has to flesh out the rest of the roster. It should take him at least two years. □

EASTERN DIVISION

Even though coach Wilson did well in stocking his new team, you can't expect a winner the first year Prediction: Fifth

MIAMI DOLPHINS

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Joe (Buf)	6	0	0	36
Spikes (Hou)	3	6	1	27
Mingo (Oak)	0	0	8	24

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Joe (Buf)	123	377	4	3.1
Spikes (Hou)	47	173	3	3.6

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Wood (Oak)	157	69	1003	8	6	43.9
Wilson (Bos)	46	20	257	1	3	43.5

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Roberson (Buf)	46	703	3	15.3
Jackson (KC)	28	440	1	15.7
Kocourek (SD)	28	363	2	13.0
Joe (Buf)	27	271	2	10.0

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
West (NY)	6	57	28	9.5
Warren (SD)	5	43	26	8.6

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Wilson (Bos)	5	194	49	38.8

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Jackson (KC)	13	163	41	12.5
West (NY)	10	34	9	3.4

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Roberson (Buf)	16	318	29	19.9
Jackson (KC)	9	260	62	28.9

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Roberson, Bo (S-F)	6-1	190	30	6	Cornell
Twilley, Howard (S)	5-10	180	21	1	Tulsa
Moreau, Doug (S)	6-1	195	20	1	Louisiana State
Craig, Dobie (S)	6-3	205	27	4	Howard Payne
Jackson, Frank (F)	6-1	190	26	6	S.M.U.
Roderick, John (F)	6-1	180	21	1	S.M.U.
Noonan, Karl (F)	6-3	185	21	1	Iowa
Kocourek, Dave (T)	6-5	240	28	8	Wisconsin
Mitchell, Stan (T)	6-2	220	21	1	Tennessee
Mather, Greg (T)	6-2	220	25	1	Navy
(S)—Split end					
(T)—Tight end					
(F)—Flanker					

Comments

If Roberson, Jackson or Kocourek are beaten out it will surprise. Twilley and Roderick are quality freshmen. Tulsa flash hasn't size or speed but he catches the football. Roderick has 9.3 speed. Roberson, former Olympian, led Bills' catchers. Kocourek is among AFL's best tight ends. Mitchell was a fullback at Tennessee, but his blocking makes him Kocourek's most likely rival. Moreau, Mather are kickers. Latter was a Navy star. **RATING—GOOD**

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Davidson, Jim (T)	6-4	245	22	1	Ohio State
Evans, Norm (T)	6-5	235	23	2	Texas Christian
Williams, Maxie (T)	6-4	240	25	2	S. E. Louisiana
Lardani, Ray (T)	6-3	280	28	3	Miami (Fla.)
Neighbors, Billy (G)	5-11	245	25	5	Alabama
Rice, Ken (G)	6-2	240	27	6	Auburn
Park, Ernie (T-G)	6-3	253	25	4	McMurry
Goode, Tom (C)	6-3	240	26	6	Mississippi State
Hudock, Mike (C)	6-2	245	31	8	Miami (Fla.)
(T)—Tackle					
(G)—Guard					
(C)—Center					

Dolphins could use some experience here. Only Rice, Neighbors and Hudock are proven pros, though Park started for Chargers in last half of season. Goode may push Hudock. Davidson, Bills' No. 1 draft choice, was drydocked by knee injury last year. Evans and Williams were regarded by Oilers as bright prospects. Rice's return to early form would help. Kenny can play guard or tackle. **RATING—POOR**

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Wilson, Eddie	6-0	200	25	5	Arizona
Wood, Dick	6-5	200	28	6	Auburn
Norton, Rick	6-1	198	22	1	Kentucky

Norton is good future bet, but Wilson or Wood will play in '66. Eddie's younger, can do more things. Dick has flimsy knees. **RATING—FAIR**

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Joe, Billy (F)	6-2	236	24	4	Villanova
Spikes, Jack (F)	6-2	220	27	7	Texas Christian
Powell, Preston (F)	6-2	230	29	3	Grambling
Price, Sam (H)	5-11	215	22	1	Illinois
Mingo, Gene (H)	6-1	190	28	7	none
(F)—Fullback					
(H)—Halfback					

Billy Joe starred in first half for Bills, then slumped. Spikes has his moments. Price could be a big help. He was eclipsed by Jim Grabowski at Illinois. Mingo has the ability. Powell's an ex-Brown. **RATING—POOR**

KICKER

Mingo, Gene	6-1	190	28	7	none
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'64: 8 of 19 FG attempts. **RATING—FAIR**

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Branch, Mel (E)	6-2	230	28	7	Louisiana State
Torczon, Laverne (E)	6-3	250	29	8	Nebraska
Cooke, Ed (E)	6-4	250	29	9	Maryland
Lorenz, Don (E)	6-3	235	21	1	S. F. Austin
Holmes, John (E)	6-2	248	22	1	Florida A&M
Dotson, Alphonse (T)	6-5	255	22	1	Grambling
Zecher, Rick (T)	6-2	240	21	2	Utah State
Nomina, Tom (T)	6-5	270	23	3	Miami (O.)
Bolton, Grady (T)	6-2	240	22	1	Mississippi State
(E)—End					
(T)—Tackle					

There are prospects here, but few proven players. Branch had big year at KC, but he's small for position. Cooke can hold fort. Dotson got king-sized bonus from KC but pulled muscle kept him out for the year. Zecher played little as Oakland rookie. Torczon is tough, seasoned. Nomina never earned big money Denver gave him. Bolton is the top rookie. He could be a regular. **RATING—POOR**

LINEBACKERS

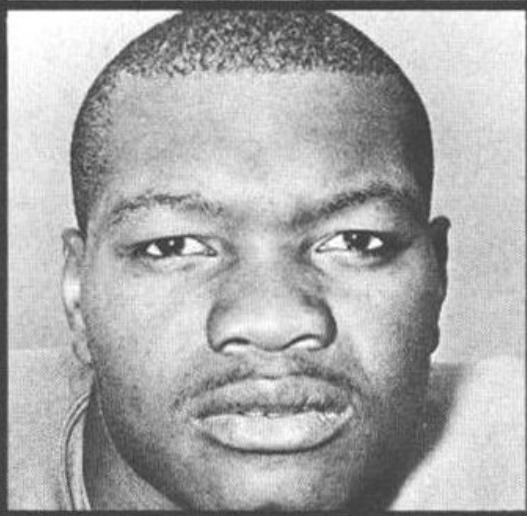
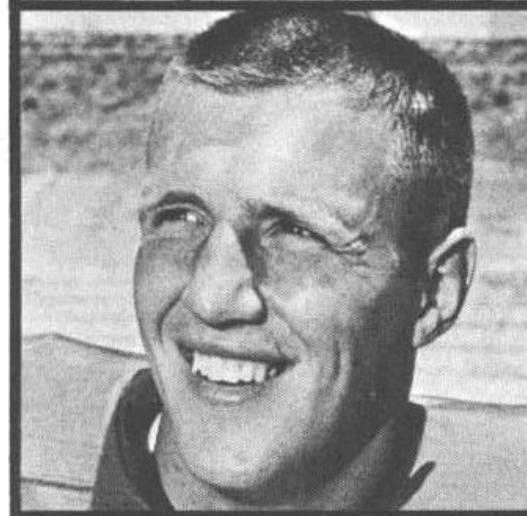
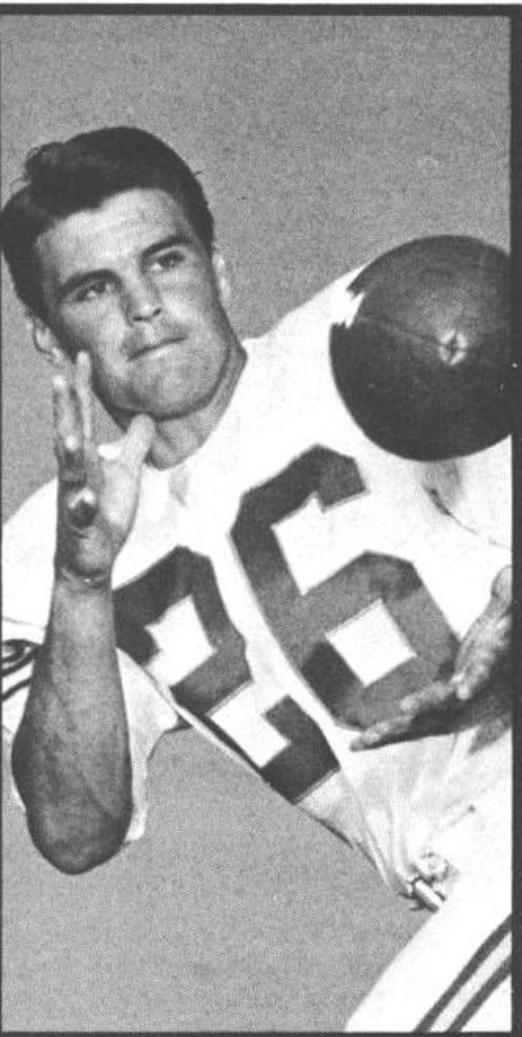
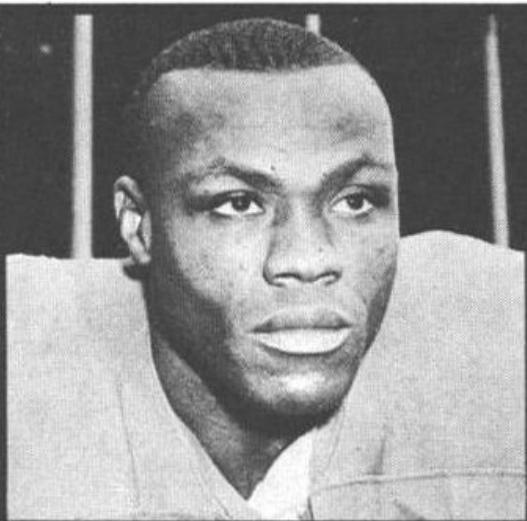
LINEBACKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Rudolph, Jack (O)	6-4	230	27	7	Georgia Tech
Erlandson, Tom (O)	6-3	235	25	4	Washington State
Bruggers, Bob (O)	6-1	225	21	1	Minnesota
Bugel, Tom (O)	6-1	210	20	1	Ohio State
Emanuel, Frank (M)	6-3	225	23	1	Tennessee
McDaniel, Wahoo (M)	6-1	229	27	7	Oklahoma
(O)—Outside linebacker					
(M)—Middle linebacker					

Emanuel is Exhibit A. Dolphins gave him big money to sign. He's the middle linebacker unless Wahoo can prove otherwise. Rudolph was Boston's best blitz. If Erlandson couldn't help Denver, it's hard to see what he'll do here. Bruggers is a sleeper. **RATING—POOR**

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Westmoreland, Dick (C)	6-1	190	24	4	N. Carolina A&T
Warren, Jim (C)	5-11	185	26	3	Illinois
West, Willie (C)	5-10	185	26	6	Oregon
Petrella, Bob (C)	6-0	185	26	1	Tennessee
Buckner, Mike (C)	6-2	205	21	1	Northwestern
Martha, Richie (C)	6-0	182	22	1	West Virginia
O'Hanley, Ross (S)	6-0	180	26	7	Boston College
(C)—Corner back					
(S)—Safety					

AFL observers think Westmoreland was Dolphins' most fortunate pick in veteran draft. Warren was two-year regular for talent-laden San Diego. West is above average. Willie's had good years. O'Hanley is a classy free safety. McGeever was unhappy at Denver, could improve in the sun. **RATING—GOOD**



The Miami team will be built around such men as defensive back Dick Westmoreland, top left; flanker Bo Roberson, top center; flanker Frank Jackson, right; tight end Dave Kocourek, bottom left; and fullback Billy Joe, bottom center

George Wilson, the veteran National League coach who was hired to guide Miami's new AFL entry, says he would like to see his yearlings play the NFL's fledgling Atlanta team 14 times this year. "We'd win every game," he predicts.

The problem is that Wilson has to play the Buffalo Bills, San Diego Chargers and Kansas City Chiefs instead. The AFL gave him a good nucleus, but if he wins three games it will be a triumph.

The strongest hands dealt Wilson in the generous stocking plan were in his receiving department and in the secondary.

The veteran draft gave him Frank Jackson of Kansas City and Bo Roberson of Buffalo as wide receivers, and Dave Kocourek of San Diego at tight end.

In addition, personnel director Joe Thomas signed prize rookies Howard Twilley of Tulsa, John Roderick of SMU and Stan Mitchell of Tennessee.

Thomas plucked off five defensive backs who started for their former teams—Dick Westmoreland and Jim Warren of San Diego, Ross O'Hanley of Boston, Willie West of New York and John McGeever of Denver. Westmoreland broke his arm last year, but

if he's sound the Dolphins could have their first All-League player.

It took boxcar figures to sign Kentucky quarterback Rick Norton, and he may be the team's future. Right now Eddie Wilson, formerly of Boston and Kansas City, looks like the starter.

Another expensive frosh, Frank Emanuel of Tennessee, is the middle linebacker. The outside linebackers and defensive linemen could be anyone. There's more experience on the offensive line, with Ken Rice of Oakland, Billy Neighbors of Boston, Ernie Park of San Diego and Mike Hudock of New York.

Billy Joe of Buffalo looks like the best back. There's also Jack Spikes of Houston and rookie Sam Price, who played in Jim Grabowski's shadow at Illinois. Former Navy star Greg Mather and rookie Doug Moreau of LSU challenge Gene Mingo for the place-kicking duty.

Coach Wilson could make things embarrassing for the opposition if Eddie Wilson blossoms, the line gives adequate protection and a pass rush develops.

Otherwise it might be prudent to play youngsters like Twilley, Roderick, Price and Norton. □

WESTERN DIVISION

Winning the flag won't come easy to Sid Gillman's men this year, but he has enough quality for the job. Prediction: First

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

1965 RECORD (9-2-3)

34	Denver	31
17	Oakland	6
10	Kansas City	10
31	Houston	14
34	Buffalo	3
13	Boston	13
34	New York	9
6	Boston	22
35	Denver	21
7	Kansas City	31
20	Buffalo	20
38	New York	7
37	Houston	26
24	Oakland	14

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Travenio	0	40	18	94
Alworth	14	0	0	84
Lowe	8	0	0	48
Lincoln	7	0	0	42

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Lowe	222	1121	7	5.0
Foster	121	469	2	3.9
Lincoln	74	302	3	4.1
Allison	29	100	0	3.4
Hadl	28	91	1	3.2

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Hadl	347	174	2798	20	21	50.1
Breaux	43	22	404	2	4	51.2

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Alworth	69	1602	14	23.2
Norton	34	485	2	14.3
Kocourek	28	363	2	13.0
Lincoln	23	376	4	16.3

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Whitehead	7	127	35	18.1
Graham	5	108	51	21.6
Warren	5	43	26	8.6
Duncan	4	30	26	7.5

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Hadl	38	1544	65	40.6
Redman	29	1145	59	39.5

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Duncan	30	464	66	15.5
Graham	5	36	12	7.2

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Duncan	26	612	46	23.5
Farr	7	123	24	17.6

WESTERN DIVISION

Winning the flag won't come easy to Sid Gillman's men this year, but he has enough quality for the job. Prediction: First

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Norton, Don (S)	6-1	195	28	7	Iowa
Garrison, Gary (S)	6-1	195	22	1	San Diego State
MacKinnon, Jacque (T)	6-4	250	27	6	Colgate
Waff, Wayne (T)	6-5	245	23	1	E. Tennessee State
Owens, Terry (T)	6-6	240	21	1	Jacksonville State
Alworth, Lance (F)	6-0	180	26	5	Arkansas
Taylor, Sammie (F)	6-0	190	26	2	Grambling
Frazier, Willie (T)	6-4	235	22	3	Arkansas AM&N
(S)—Split end	(T)—Tight end	(F)—Flanker			

Comments

Chargers will start one or two new receivers. MacKinnon was all set to take Kocourek's place, but along came Willie Frazier from Houston. Rookie Garrison may bench Norton. Alworth remains top target, has been called pro football's finest receiver. MacKinnon needs strong determination. Owens will get trial as tackle or defensive end, too. **RATING—GOOD**

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Wright, Ernie (T)	6-4	265	26	7	Wisconsin
Mix, Ron (T)	6-4	250	28	7	U.S.C.
Sweeney, Walt (G)	6-3	250	25	4	Syracuse
Shea, Pat (G)	6-1	245	26	5	U.S.C.
Farris, John (G)	6-4	245	25	2	San Diego State
Lucas, Tom (G)	6-2	232	23	1	Mississippi
Mitchell, Ed (G)	6-2	280	24	2	Southern U.
Gruneisen, Sam (C)	6-1	240	25	5	Villanova
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center			

Mix figures to rebound from so-so season. He's among best in game. Wright's an underrated star. They make Chargers' outside stuff go. Sweeney should get better with more savvy. Shea comes off injured list. Farris may challenge for his job. Lucas is swift and tough. He'll get chance to unseat Gruneisen. Wright, Mix and Sweeney are nucleus. **RATING—GOOD**

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Hadl, John	6-1	215	26	5	Kansas
Tensi, Steve	6-5	215	23	1	Florida State

Hadl isn't Gillman's ideal, but is best available. Tensi is learning. **RATING—GOOD**

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Lincoln, Keith (F)	6-1	215	27	6	Washington State
Allison, Jim (F)	6-0	220	23	2	San Diego State
Lowe, Paul (H)	6-1	210	29	7	Oregon State
Foster, Gene (H-F)	5-11	212	23	2	Arizona State
Travis, John (H)	6-1	216	22	1	San Jose State
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

Lowe, Lincoln and Foster make this a class unit. Keith should rebound after injury-plagued year. Lowe is best outside back in AFL. If either falters, Foster will figure. Allison may play tight end. **RATING—EXCELLENT**

KICKER

KICKER	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Travenio, Herb	5-8	195	34	3	Texas College

'65: 18 of 30 FG attempts. **RATING—GOOD**

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Faison, Earl (E)	6-5	265	27	6	Indiana
Petrich, Bob (E)	6-4	250	25	4	W. Texas State
Kindig, Howard (E)	6-6	255	25	2	L. A. State
Gross, George (T)	6-3	258	25	4	Auburn
DeLong, Steve (T-E)	6-3	252	23	2	Tennessee
Martin, Larry (T)	6-2	270	24	1	San Diego State
Moore, Fred (T-E)	6-3	255	26	3	Memphis State
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle				

Chargers didn't have enough money to pay Ernie Ladd what he felt he was worth. Meanwhile, Gross and Petrich play fine, unappreciated football. Kindig, DeLong wait in wings till needed. They're great prospects. Moore is valuable sub at either spot. Martin's got promise. **RATING—EXCELLENT**

LINEBACKERS

LINEBACKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Buncom, Frank (O)	6-1	240	26	5	U.S.C.
Redman, Rick (O-M)	6-0	225	23	2	Washington
Degen, Dick (O)	6-1	220	24	2	Long Beach State
Carpenter, Ron (O)	6-2	230	25	3	Texas A&M
Good, Tom (O)	6-0	230	22	1	Marshall
Horton, Bob (O)	6-2	230	23	3	Boston U.
Mitinger, Bob (O)	6-2	235	26	4	Penn State
Allen, Chuck (M)	6-0	225	27	6	Washington
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker				

Buncom blossomed in All Star game where he was best defensive player. At 240 he's frightening. Allen juked retirement thoughts. He's valuable. Redman could win outside job or out Allen. He's a comer. Degen is tough but can be had on pass defense. Mitinger returns after year's layoff. Good is top rookie, but is there room for him? **RATING—GOOD**

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Duncan, Les (C)	5-10	175	23	3	Jackson State
Farr, Miller (C)	6-1	192	23	2	Wichita
Harris, Dick (C-S)	5-11	176	29	7	McNeese State
Stiles, Bob (C)	5-9	178	23	1	U.C.L.A.
Scott, Bill (C)	6-1	188	21	1	Idaho
Graham, Ken (S)	6-0	200	24	3	Washington State
Whitehead, Bud (S)	5-11	185	27	6	Florida State
Zeman, Bob (S)	6-1	205	28	6	Wisconsin
Tolbert, Jim (S-C)	6-3	210	21	1	Lincoln
Jacquess, Pete (C)	6-0	185	23	3	Eastern N. Mex.
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety				

No. 1 project is replacing Westmoreland and Warren at corners. Jacquess, an ex-Oiler, should fill the bill nicely. Duncan had good year as sophomore, but he's a midget. Farr was claimed mostly because of speed. Stiles is another shrimp. Graham rates with best strong safeties. Whitehead was talked out of college coaching. Tolbert, highest draft pick, is green. Gillman must be sorry he gave up so much talent. **RATING—FAIR</b**



Lance Alworth (19) does his act again—grabs a pass and leaves defenders in his wake. In this instance, he cuts past a lunging Harry Jacobs (64) and gets ready to do the same thing to Mike Stratton (58) and a Bills' defensive back

The San Diego Chargers, despite all their talent, have a fatal flaw: They step back to admire their work.

Last season, for the fourth time in five tries, they lost the AFL title after winning the Western Division crown. Heavily favored, the Chargers absorbed a 23-0 *kayo* from the Buffalo Bills.

This year coach Sid Gillman has more to worry about than big heads. For starters there are the Kansas City Chiefs and Oakland Raiders, both improved and both hungry for championship checks.

Then there are Ernie Ladd and Earl Faison. Ladd has already signed with Houston as a free agent, and Faison is apparently gone for good over a salary squabble, too—though he's still listed on the roster.

In addition, Gillman lost his starting tight end, Dave Kocourek; a starting guard, Ernie Park; and two corner backs, Dick Westmoreland and Jim Warren, to Miami in the expansion draft.

Then the Chargers lost their first nine college draft choices.

Other than that everything is fine. Of course, there's considerable compensation in the fact that the Oilers were forced to hand over tight end Willie Fraz-

ier and corner back Pete Jacquess to the Chargers as compensation for Ladd's defection.

And San Diego still has such high-powered talent of its own as flanker Lance Alworth, backs Keith Lincoln, Paul Lowe and Gene Foster and quarterback John Hadl. But the other Western Division clubs are catching up.

The draft did bring one bonus, split end Gary Garrison. The San Diego State Little All-America was the Chargers' top future and is expected to move into the starting lineup as Alworth's running mate.

Replacing Ladd and Faison are two promising youngsters, tackle Steve DeLong and end Howard Kindig. DeLong was Lineman of the Year as a Tennessee senior in '64.

The rest of the defense could be a problem. Outside linebacker Frank Buncom and middle man Chuck Allen are solid, but there is a drop in class at the third spot. The loss of Westmoreland and Warren makes the secondary questionable.

Still, if Lincoln and Lowe keep shredding defenses and Hadl matures, Kansas City and Oakland may have to wait a bit longer. □

WESTERN DIVISION

The club is a year away, though a shot at all of the marbles might have been possible under Al Davis. Prediction: Second

OAKLAND RAIDERS

1965 RECORD (8-5-1)

37	Kansas City	10
6	San Diego	17
21	Houston	17
12	Buffalo	17
24	Boston	10
24	New York	24
30	Boston	21
7	Kansas City	14
33	Houston	21
14	Buffalo	17
28	Denver	20
24	Denver	13
24	New York	14
14	San Diego	24

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Powell	12	0	0	72
Daniels	12	0	0	72
Mercer	0	35	9	62
Mingo	0	0	8	24
Miller	4	0	0	24

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Daniels	219	884	5	4.0
Miller	73	272	1	3.7
Todd	32	183	0	5.7
Hagberg	48	171	1	3.6

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
Flores	269	122	1593	14	11	45.3
Wood	157	69	1003	8	6	43.9

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Powell	52	800	12	15.4
Daniels	36	568	7	15.8
Biletnikoff	24	331	0	13.8
Miller	21	208	3	9.9

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Powers	5	56	21	11.2
Gibson	4	53	22	13.2

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Mercer	75	3079	70	41.1

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Gibson	31	357	58	11.8
Krakoski	2	5	5	2.5

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Todd	20	461	50	23.1
Gibson	9	186	38	20.7

WESTERN DIVISION

The club is a year away, though a shot at all of the marbles might have been possible under Al Davis. Prediction: Second

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Biletnikoff, Fred (F)	6-1	190	23	2	Florida State
Todd, Larry (F)	6-1	185	23	2	Arizona State
Powell, Art (S)	6-2	212	28	10	San Jose State
Atkins, Pervis (S-T)	6-1	195	28	6	New Mex. State
Cannon, Billy (T)	6-1	215	29	7	Louisiana State
Herock, Ken (T)	6-2	230	24	4	West Virginia
Mitchell, Tom (T)	6-2	235	21	1	Bucknell
(S)—Split end					(T)—Tight end
					(F)—Flanker

Comments

Here's possibly the best young receiver corps in AFL. Todd must be considered a catcher now. Reason is that Powell hobbled through the '65 season, may be slowing up. Biletnikoff is full of promise. Mitchell, a high draft pick, is slated for tight end job. He could be pushed by inspired Cannon. RATING—VERY GOOD

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Schuh, Harry (T)	6-2	260	23	2	Memphis State
Svihus, Bob (T)	6-4	245	23	2	U.S.C.
Harvey, Jim (T)	6-5	245	22	1	Mississippi
Hawkins, Wayne (G)	6-0	240	28	7	U. of Pacific
Flint, George (G)	6-4	248	27	6	Arizona State
Marinovich, Marv (G)	6-1	240	25	2	U.S.C.
Tyson, Dick (G)	6-2	245	22	1	Tulsa
Mischak, Bob (G)	6-2	230	30	8	West Point
Otto, Jim (C)	6-2	240	27	7	Miami (Fla.)
(T)—Tackle					(G)—Guard
					(C)—Center

Another bright spot. Schuh, Svihus won starting jobs as rookies. Tyson could do the same thing this year. He was schooled well as pass blocker at Tulsa. Hawkins is an underrated star. Flint, acquired in Buffalo trade, hustles. Harvey's a top rookie. Marinovich watched from taxi squad. Otto is crowned king of AFL centers. Unit has the skill and depth. Only missing ingredient is experience. RATING—GOOD

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Davidson, Cotton	6-0	180	34	8	Baylor
Flores, Tom	6-1	190	27	6	U. of Pacific
Green, Charley	6-0	190	22	1	Wittenberg

Cotton's fragile arm holds key. He has great days against some clubs, Flores against others. Raiders need both. RATING—FAIR

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Daniels, Clem (H)	6-1	218	27	7	Prairie View A&M
Banaszak, Pete (H)	5-11	200	22	1	Miami (Fla.)
Dixon, Hewritt (F)	6-1	220	25	4	Florida A&M
Miller, Alan (F)	6-1	205	28	6	Boston College
Hagberg, Roger (F)	6-1	215	27	5	Minnesota
(F)—Fullback					(H)—Halfback

Trade which brought Dixon was key one. Hewritt could be that kind of fullback—top blocker and good receiver. Daniels remains outstanding. Scouts like Banaszak. If things get tough, Todd could be brought back. RATING—GOOD

KICKER

KICKER	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Mercer, Mike	6-0	210	28	6

'65: 9 of 15 FG attempts. RATING—GOOD

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Davidson, Ben (E)	6-7	265	27	6	Washington
Lassiter, Isaac (E)	6-5	270	25	5	St. Augustine
Oats, Carleton (E)	6-2	245	23	2	Florida A&M
Kent, Greg (E)	6-6	275	22	1	Utah
Costa, Dave (T)	6-1	250	25	4	Utah
Birdwell, Dan (T)	6-4	250	26	5	Houston
Keating, Tom (T)	6-2	247	24	3	Michigan
Mirich, Rex (T)	6-4	250	25	3	Arizona State
Diehl, John (T)	6-5	250	28	6	Virginia
(E)—End					(T)—Tackle

Davidson gives Raiders best pass rush. "The Tree" has flowered in the AFL. Lassiter's another surprise. Oats, diamond in rough, could smooth out this term. Kent starred in East-West game. Costa could be among league's best. Birdwell's a rough customer. Either might be forced to move over by Keating, obtained from Buffalo for Bo Roberson. Unit rates with better ones. RATING—VERY GOOD

LINEBACKERS

LINEBACKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Otto, Gus (O)	6-2	220	23	2	Missouri
Williamson, John (O)	6-2	220	24	3	Louisiana Tech
Connors, Dan (O)	6-1	230	24	3	Miami (Fla.)
Hermann, Dick (O)	6-1	215	24	2	Florida State
Kinney, Cliff (O)	6-1	215	22	1	San Diego State
Budness, Bill (M)	6-2	215	23	3	Boston U.
(O)—Outside linebacker					(M)—Middle linebacker

Anybody here beyond second year is considered a senior citizen. Lack of game experience is only drawback. Otto was one of the showcase freshmen in '65. Budness inherits Archie Matsos' middle spot. Connors battles Williamson for job. RATING—GOOD

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
McCloughan, Kent (C)	6-1	190	22	2	Nebraska
Grayson, Dave (C)	5-10	185	27	6	Oregon
Bird, Rodger (C)	5-11	195	22	1	Kentucky
Labruzzo, Joe (C)	5-9	175	22	1	Louisiana State
Powers, Warren (S)	6-0	190	25	4	Nebraska
Williams, Howie (S)	6-0	186	25	5	Howard
Krakoski, Joe (S)	6-2	195	28	5	Illinois
Gibson, Claude (S)	6-1	190	28	6	N. Carolina State
(C)—Corner back					(S)—Safety

Bird, South's best broken-field runner, is candidate for corner job, showing class of Raiders' secondary. Grayson is All Pro caliber. McCloughan was rookie sensation. Williams could contribute more if he had better hands (drops return interceptions). Labruzzo and Gibson are return specialists. Unit is on verge of becoming best in league. RATING—GOOD



Power running by Clem Daniels (36) is one of the prime assets of the Oakland Raiders. Here he smashes over Boston's Tom Addison (53) for a five-yard gain. Help is on the way for Addison as Leonard St. Jean (60) closes on the play

When the Oakland Raiders zoomed from laughing stock to respected contender in one short burst a few seasons ago the answer was plainly Al Davis. Now that Davis has departed, he is also plainly the reason the Raiders move down a notch from Western Division favorite to mere dark horse.

The team Johnny Rauch inherits is, candidly, a year away. But Davis' guile, plus some adequate quarterbacking, might have put it into the title game.

Rauch's assets include the AFL's best assemblage of running backs, strong receiving and an improved defense. The strongest suit of all is potential. There are promising youngsters at almost every position.

Take the Oakland linebackers. None has more than three years' experience. They make mistakes, but seldom repeat them, and they are maturing fast.

Two of the best kids should jazz up the offense. Larry Todd was the finest rookie running back in the league last year, but the Raiders are so deep in ball carriers that he is scheduled to be a pass receiver and could even end up in the secondary.

Fred Biletnikoff overcame a severe case of the jitters early last year and turned into a plus as the

starting flanker. He should have enough experience to take some double-coverage pressure off Art Powell.

The Raiders traded middle linebacker Archie Matsos to Denver for fullback Hewritt Dixon, who can block and catch the ball as an Oakland fullback is asked to do.

The draft brought a touted tight end, Little All-America Tom Mitchell of Bucknell. Rauch would be happy if he can hurdle Billy Cannon and Ken Herock to win the starting position.

Two other rookies also have a chance to start. Rodger Bird, the No. 1 draft choice from Kentucky, contends for a berth in the secondary. Guard Richard Tyson learned pro-type pass protection at Tulsa.

Six rookies started, at least part of the time, last year. All six—tackles Harry Schuh and Bob Svhuis, linebacker Gus Otto, corner back Kent McCloughan, Todd and Biletnikoff—have big futures.

The Raiders' toughest problem is at quarterback. Cotton Davidson missed all but a few plays due to a sore arm last year. If he can snap back, even at his age, Oakland might have the adequate quarterbacking it needs to outdistance San Diego and Kansas City. □

WESTERN DIVISION

*The same old story: Lots of talented football players
who never seem to put all their talents together Prediction: Third*

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

1965 RECORD (7-5-2)

10	Oakland	37
14	New York	10
10	San Diego	10
27	Boston	17
31	Denver	23
7	Buffalo	23
36	Houston	38
14	Oakland	7
10	New York	13
31	San Diego	7
10	Boston	10
52	Houston	21
25	Buffalo	34
45	Denver	35

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Brooker	0	37	13	76
McClinton	9	0	0	54
Burford	6	0	0	36
Taylor	5	0	0	30

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
McClinton	171	657	6	3.9
Hill	126	623	2	4.9
Dawson	43	142	2	3.3
Coan	45	137	1	3.0

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	Ints	Pct
Dawson	306	164	2265	21	53.6
Beathard	88	36	632	6	40.9

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Burford	47	575	6	12.2
McClinton	37	590	3	15.9
Jackson	29	443	1	15.3
Taylor	26	446	5	17.2

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Williamson	6	89	51	14.9
Robinson	5	99	50	19.8
Bell	4	73	38	18.3

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Wilson	68	3132	64	46.1

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Mitchell	17	245	71	12.7
Jackson	13	163	41	12.5

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Coan	19	479	53	25.2
Jackson	9	260	62	28.9

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Burford, Chris (S)	6-3	210	28	7	Stanford
Pitts, Frank (S)	6-2	184	22	2	Southern U.
Arbanas, Fred (T)	6-3	234	27	5	Michigan State
Brooker, Tom (T)	6-2	235	26	5	Alabama
Carolan, Reg (T)	6-6	238	26	5	Idaho
Taylor, Otis (F)	6-2	211	22	2	Prairie View
Richardson, Gloster (F)	6-0	200	23	1	Jackson State
Lamb, Jerry (F)	6-1	185	24	1	Arkansas
(S)—Split end					
(T)—Tight end					
(F)—Flanker					

Comments
Taylor, who came strong near end of '65 season, could supply deep threat Chiefs have been lacking. Burford does good job on short and medium patterns. Though he missed last month of play, he still led Chiefs in receiving. Pitts has promise, but is still green. Arbanas overcame handicap of restricted vision in one eye to finish well. RATING—GOOD

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Tyrer, Jim (T)	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
	Hill, Dave (T)	6-5	264	24	4	Auburn
	Cox, Steve (T)	6-5	243	23	1	South Carolina
	DiMidio, Tony (T)	6-3	250	24	2	West Chester
	Budde, Ed (G)	6-5	260	25	4	Michigan State
	Merz, Curt (G)	6-4	267	28	7	Iowa
	Reynolds, Al (G)	6-3	250	28	5	Tarkio
	Rosdahl, Hatch (G)	6-4	250	23	3	Penn State
	Gilliam, Jon (C)	6-2	241	27	6	E. Texas State
	(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center			

Tyrer annually is an All Star and excels as pass blocker. Hill arrived in '65. Reserves are a bit thin. Cox is bright prospect who could win job. Budde is among the league's better guards, but never lived up to advance notices. Merz does solid work. Rosdahl was disappointment on defense, but may find himself in switch. DiMidio is a Giant reject. Unit could use more speed. RATING—GOOD

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Dawson, Len	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
	Beathard, Pete	6-2	210	24	3	U.S.C.
	Thomas, Danny	6-1	190	23	1	S.M.U.

If he could curb indiscriminate running, Beathard could oust vet Dawson. Lenny gets rapped for lack of imagination. RATING—GOOD

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	McClinton, Curtis (F)	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
	Wilson, Jerrel (F)	6-4	222	24	4	Southern Miss.
	Gipson, Elijah (F-H)	6-1	222	21	1	Bethune-Cookman
	Coan, Bert (H)	6-4	225	26	5	Kansas
	Burton, Ron (H)	6-0	195	29	7	Northwestern
	Garrett, Mike (H)	5-9	195	22	1	U.S.C.
	(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

McClinton is shifted to fullback to fill vacancy left by Mack Hill's death. Statistically he had his best year, but fumbles plagued him. Coan's physical skills make him No. 1 halfback candidate, but he loses interest. Garrett, despite size, could star. RATING—FAIR

KICKER

KICKER	Brooker, Tom	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
		6-2	235	26	5

'65: 13 of 30 FG attempts. RATING—POOR

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN	Mays, Jerry (E)	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
	Hurston, Chuck (E)	6-6	230	23	2	Auburn
	Brown, Aaron (E)	6-5	250	22	1	Minnesota
	Buchanan, Buck (T)	6-7	287	25	4	Grambling
	Lothamer, Ed (T)	6-5	270	23	3	Michigan State
	Borghetti, Ernie (T)	6-4	250	24	1	Pitt
	Piraino, Al (T)	6-5	265	22	1	Wisconsin
	(E)—End	(T)—Tackle	(M)—Middle linebacker			

Mays is just as deadly at end as he was at tackle. Rookie Brown is the man to beat out on other side. Hurston has amazing speed, but he's probably another year away. Buchanan, in fourth season, should reach Sestak-Ladd class. Powerful Lothamer is first-rate. This is one of AFL's finest groups. RATING—EXCELLENT

LINEBACKERS	Bell, Bobby (O)	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
	Holub, E. J. (O)	6-4	236	28	6	Texas Tech
	Stover, Smokey (O)	6-0	227	27	7	N. E. Louisiana
	Corey, Walt (O)	6-1	233	27	6	Miami
	Headrick, Sherill (M)	6-2	240	29	8	Texas Christian
	(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker				
	(S)—Corner back	(S)—Safety				

Bell made successful switch from All-League end to All-League linebacker. He's unbelievably quick. Holub piles up running game, but mysteries of forward pass baffle him. Headrick does solid job. RATING—GOOD



Kansas City's field general, Len Dawson, starts a play against the Jets. Running back Curtis McClinton (32) moves out of his backfield position to block and you can see center Jon Gilliam (65) move to his right to help open the hole

The Kansas City Chiefs are violating one of the holy precepts of pro football. They're banking on a pair of rookies. They're not ordinary rookies. One is Mike Garrett, the Southern California halfback who won the Heisman Trophy last year. The other is Aaron Brown, Minnesota's coveted end.

It took the proceeds from one of Lamar Hunt's oil wells to get Garrett's name on a contract. His signing became imperative when fullback Mack Lee Hill died on the operating table during routine knee surgery last fall. Curtis McClinton moves from halfback to replace Hill. The hope is that Garrett's skills will overcome his lack of size (5-9, 195 pounds) and enable him to move directly into the lineup. Brown, a superb athlete, could give the Chiefs the finest defensive front four in the league.

Garrett's size isn't the only problem in the running attack. McClinton never has equaled his great rookie season of five years ago. Last year he did well statistically, but fumbled away several victories.

If McClinton doesn't excel and if Garrett doesn't prove to be the outside runner coach Hank Stram hopes he will be, then Ron Burton (acquired from Bos-

ton) or rookie Elijah Gipson will get a long look see.

The progressive-minded Chief fans hope this is the year young Pete Beathard replaces conservative Len Dawson at quarterback. Beathard is a superior scrambler, but leaves his pocket more than necessary.

"He could be another Art Powell," says Stram of big Otis Taylor. The green rookie had his moments last year, scoring five touchdowns.

If Frank Pitts matures he'll challenge dependable Chris Burford at split end. Tight end is safe with Fred Arbanas, who has licked poor vision in his right eye.

Defensively, the Chiefs have that championship look. Brown completes a classy front which includes All Pro Jerry Mays at the other end plus awesome Buck Buchanan and underrated Ed Lothamer at tackles. There's a promising sub in end Chuck Huston, one of the fastest Chiefs.

There are few better linebackers than Bobby Bell. E. J. Holub and middle man Sherill Headrick are also first-rate. Safeties Johnny Robinson and Bobby Hunt star in the secondary. The enemy, however, looks for flaws in the play of corner backs Willie Mitchell and Fred Williamson. □

WESTERN DIVISION

Not much going on here—a few stars and a lot of holes is the story of Mac Speedie's immediate future Prediction: Fourth

DENVER BRONCOS

1965 RECORD (4-10)

31	San Diego	34
15	Buffalo	30
27	Boston	10
16	New York	13
23	Kansas City	31
28	Houston	17
13	Buffalo	31
10	New York	45
21	San Diego	35
31	Houston	21
20	Oakland	28
13	Oakland	24
20	Boston	28
35	Kansas City	45

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Kroner	0	32	13	71
Hayes	7	1*	0	44
Gilchrist	7	0	0	42
Haynes	6	0	0	36
Taylor	6	0	0	36

* includes two-point conversion

RUSHING

	Atts	Yds	TDs	Avg
Gilchrist	252	954	6	3.8
Hayes	130	524	5	4.0
Haynes	41	166	3	4.0

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Yds	TDs	Ints	Pct
McCormick	253	103	1292	7	14	40.7
Slaughter	147	75	864	6	12	51.0
Lee	81	44	690	5	3	54.3

RECEIVING

	Recs	Yds	TDs	Avg
Taylor	85	1129	6	13.3
Scarpitto	32	585	5	18.3
Haynes	26	216	2	8.3
Dixon	25	354	2	14.2
Hayes	24	294	2	12.3

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yds	Longest	Avg
Gonsoulin	6	91	32	15.2
Griffin	4	109	44	27.3
Wilson	3	118	65	39.3

PUNTING

	Punts	Yds	Longest	Avg
Scarpitto	67	2833	67	42.3

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Barry	21	210	38	10.0
Haynes	14	121	57	8.6

KICKOFF RETURNS

	Rets	Yds	Longest	Avg
Haynes	34	901	60	26.5
Barry	26	611	64	23.5

OFFENSE

RECEIVERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Taylor, Lionel (S)	6-2	215	29	8	N. M. Highlands
Hadrick, Bob (S)	6-3	220	21	1	Purdue
Denson, Al (T)	6-2	208	24	3	Florida A&M
Hatfield, Art (T)	6-5	225	22	1	L. A. State
Scarpitto, Bob (F)	5-11	196	27	6	Notre Dame
Crabtree, Eric (F)	5-11	190	21	1	Pitt
(S)—Split end	(T)—Tight end	(F)—Flanker			

Comments

Taylor is the Denver passing game. Trouble is, he doesn't have enough help. Hadrick could relieve pressure. Denson doesn't have physique for tight end. Crabtree could be Broncos' top rookie. He has possibilities on defense too. Scarpitto works. **RATING—FAIR**

INTERIOR LINEMEN

INTERIOR LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Danenhauer, Eldon (T)	6-5	245	30	7	Pittsburg (Kan.)
Breitenstein, Bob (T)	6-5	270	23	2	Tulsa
Bernet, Lee (T)	6-2	245	24	2	Wisconsin
Matson, Pat (T)	6-1	250	21	1	Oregon
McCullough, Bob (G)	6-2	245	25	5	Colorado
Sturm, Jerry (G-C)	6-3	260	29	9	Illinois
Parker, Charlie (G)	6-1	245	24	2	Southern Miss.
Kubala, Ray (C)	6-4	245	24	3	Texas A&M
(T)—Tackle	(G)—Guard	(C)—Center			

If Breitenstein and Bernet continue to improve, they could turn this into plus group. Danenhauer is one of AFL's best tackles. Tough rookie Matson excites interest. Sturm may have to move back to center. Kubala never produced as experts predicted. This makes guard a pretty fragile position. Big hope is that youngsters mature. **RATING—FAIR**

QUARTERBACKS

QUARTERBACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
McCormick, John	6-1	210	29	4	Massachusetts
Slaughter, Mickey	6-0	190	24	3	Louisiana Tech
Glacken, Scotty	6-0	190	21	1	Duke

McCormick's strong arm makes him No. 1. Slaughter, given adequate protection, can be better than he's indicated. **RATING—POOR**

RUNNING BACKS

RUNNING BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Hayes, Wendell (H)	6-1	195	25	2	Humboldt State
Haynes, Abner (H)	6-0	190	28	7	N. Texas State
Mitchell, Charley (H)	5-11	185	25	3	Washington
Scarpitto, Cookie (F)	6-2	251	31	13	none
Lester, Darrell (F)	6-2	220	25	3	McNeese State
(F)—Fullback	(H)—Halfback				

Cookie is an incredible ground gainer. Hayes was a fine rookie. His speed and power could make him a big star. Abner led league in punt returns. Mitchell tries comeback after back injury. **RATING—VERY GOOD**

KICKER

KICKER	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Kroner, Gary	6-1	200	25	3	Wisconsin

'65: 13 of 29 FG attempts. **RATING—FAIR**

DEFENSE

FRONT LINEMEN

FRONT LINEMEN	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Leetzw, Max (E)	6-4	240	23	2	Idaho
Moore, Leroy (E)	6-2	230	29	5	Ft. Valley State
Davis, Marv (E)	6-4	252	22	1	Wichita
Maddox, John (E)	6-4	235	23	1	Mississippi
Jacobs, Ray (T)	6-3	275	26	4	Howard Payne
Janerette, Charley (T)	6-3	265	27	7	Penn State
Cox, Larry (T)	6-2	250	22	1	Abilene Christian
Inman, Jerry (T)	6-3	255	25	1	Oregon
(E)—End	(T)—Tackle				

Jacobs, best here, finally proved Houston goofed when it gave up on him after drafting him No. 1. Leetzw developed slowly, but should easily win starting spot. Davis or Maddox could unseat Moore, an in-and-outter. Janerette keeps plugging. Cox and Inman are unknown quantities. This group won't frighten many enemy quarterbacks. **RATING—POOR**

LINEBACKERS

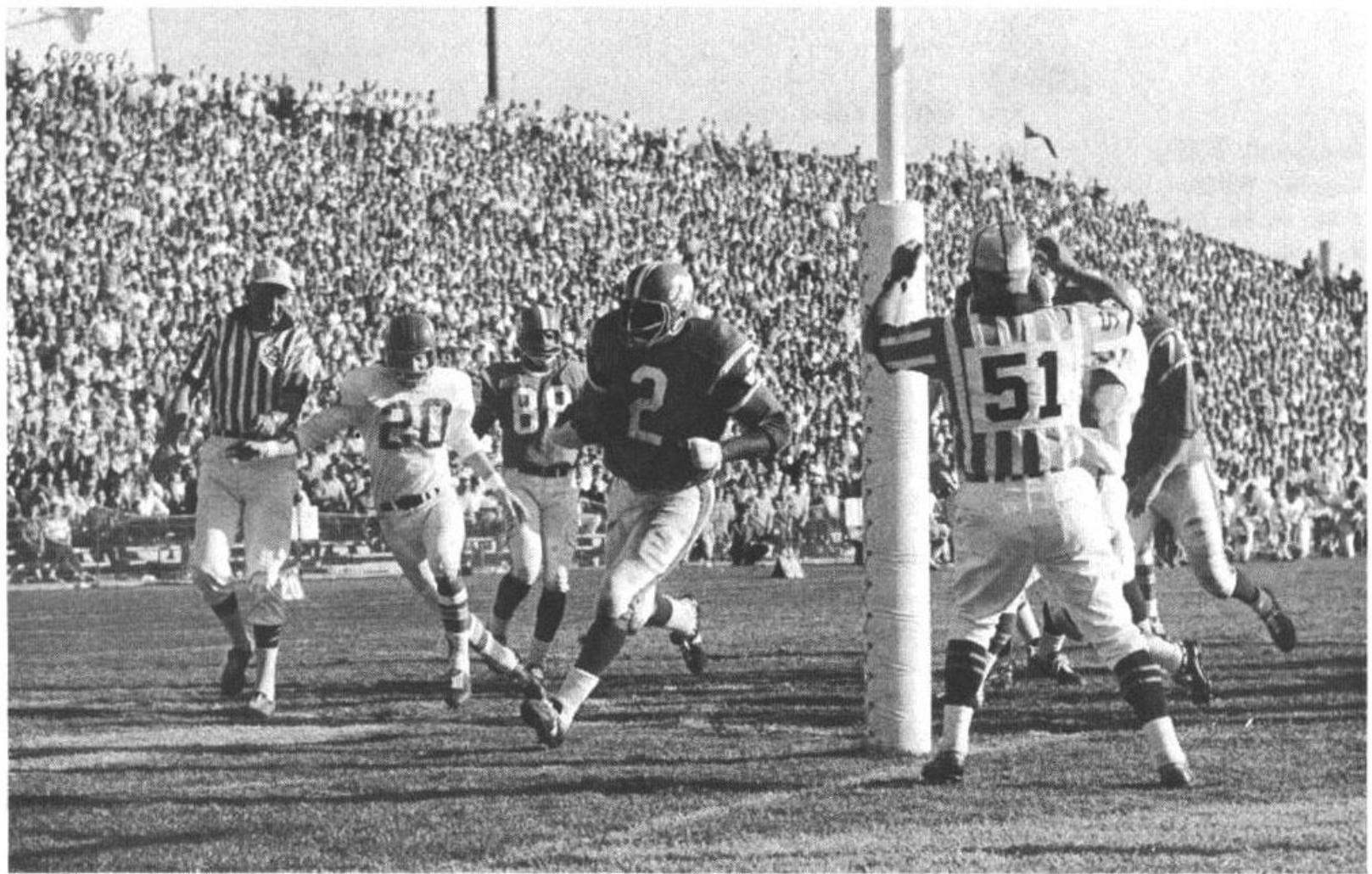
LINEBACKERS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Bramlett, John (O)	6-2	214	25	2	Memphis State
Hopkins, Jerry (O-M)	6-2	235	25	4	Texas A&M
Cummings, Ed (O)	6-2	228	25	3	Stanford
Forsberg, Fred (O)	6-2	235	21	1	Washington
Sbranti, Ron (O)	6-2	230	21	1	Utah State
Matsos, Archie (M)	6-0	212	30	7	Michigan State
(O)—Outside linebacker	(M)—Middle linebacker				

Bramlett was Broncos' best rookie in '65. He's small but very tough. Matsos, traded from Oakland, should add savvy and class to a unit that needs it. Hopkins keeps getting better. Sbranti, pass-catching end at Utah State, could be big surprise. **RATING—FAIR**

DEFENSIVE BACKS

DEFENSIVE BACKS	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College
Brown, Willie (C)	6-1	190	26	4	Grambling
Wilson, Nemiah (C)	6-0	165	23	2	Grambling
Griffin, John (C)	6-0	190	26	4	Memphis State
McMillan, Jim (C-S)	5-11	195	28	6	Colorado State
Sellers, Goldie (C-S)	6-2	198	23	1	Grambling
Gonsoulin, Goose (S)	6-3	210	28	7	Baylor
Bussell, Gerry (S)	6-0	185	23	2	Georgia Tech
(C)—Corner back	(S)—Safety				

If Willie Brown's healthy, Broncos' secondary will improve 15 or 20 per cent. Undersized Wilson had some moments as rookie. Griffin is inconsistent. McMillan could win job at safety, where Gonsoulin is discontent. Bussell took a long time, but may develop. **RATING—FAIR**



Cookie Gilchrist (2) used his power upfield to get past the line of scrimmage. Now he utilizes his speed to beat a Kansas City defensive back into the end zone for a Denver TD—but even Cookie's talents aren't enough to make his team a winner

Denver signed seven rookie quarterbacks. Would you believe coach Mac Speedie has a large problem?

Actually, the Broncos reached the respectable stage in '65, ranking second to San Diego in rushing and third behind San Diego and Houston in passing. But the next plateau is the "dangerous" stage, and that won't be reached unless Speedie concocts improved quarterbacking and a much better defense.

John McCormick, the winter-book choice to start at quarterback, has proved little except that he has a strong arm. Young Mickey Slaughter has been brilliant at times, but does not enjoy the confidence of his teammates or coaches.

That's where the freshmen come in. The best of the rookie bunch is Scotty Glacken, the finest Duke quarterback since Sonny Jurgenson. If he shows well early, he'll win a pay check.

But no matter who the quarterback is, Denver will be tough on the ground once again. Cookie Gilchrist still bruises tacklers and he has an outside runner, Wendell Hayes, to help him. There's Abner Hayes, too. He is still dangerous in the open field.

Other offensive needs are a tight end and at

least one quality guard. The reserves are practically bare along the line and among the receivers.

For the seventh consecutive draft, the Broncos failed to sign their No. 1 choice. This year it was one of the things Denver needed most, a defensive lineman. The man in question, Jerry Shay of Purdue, signed with Minnesota.

The linebacking improved when Speedie traded tight end Hewritt Dixon to Oakland for middle linebacker Archie Matsos. Arch freelances, but makes the big play. A homicidal sophomore, Johnny Bramlett, wages war on one side.

A poor pass rush puts agonizing pressure on the secondary. Corner back Willie Brown could be the best in the league if he shakes an ankle injury. Safety Goose Gonsoulin is good, but the quality ends here.

Speedie was ready to trade during the winter but got a depressing reaction from his rival coaches: "With what?" Mac doesn't have enough good front liners, much less attractive chattel.

If the Broncos have .500 aspirations they would be advised to let Cookie, Hayes, Abner and Co. control the football as much as possible. □

1965 AFL INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

SCORING

	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
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	TDs	PATs	FGs	Total
Cappelletti, Boston	9	27	17	132*
Gogolak, Buffalo	0	31	28*	115
Travenio, San Diego	0	40*	18	94
J. Turner, New York	0	31	20	91
Maynard, New York	14*	0	0	84
Alworth, San Diego	14*	0	0	84
Brooker, Kansas City	0	37	13	76
Powell, Oakland	12	0	0	72
Daniels, Oakland	12	0	0	72
Kroner, Denver	0	32	13	71

RUSHING

	Atts	Yards	TDs	Longest	Avg
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	Atts	Yards	TDs	Longest	Avg
Lowe, San Diego	222	1121*	7*	59	5.1*
Gilchrist, Denver	252*	954	6	44	3.8
Daniels, Oakland	219	884	5	57	4.0
Snell, New York	169	763	4	44	4.5
McClinton, Kansas City	175	661	6	48	3.8
Hill, Kansas City	125	627	2	66	5.0
Mathis, New York	147	604	5	79	4.1
Carlton, Buffalo	156	592	6	80*	3.8
Burrell, Houston	130	528	3	63	4.1
Hayes, Denver	130	526	5	43	4.1

PASSING

	Atts	Comps	Pct Comps	Yards	TDs	Ints	Pct Ints	Avg Gain
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	Atts	Comps	Pct Comps	Yards	TDs	Ints	Pct Ints	Avg Gain
Hadl, San Diego	348	174	50.0	2798*	20	21	6.0	8.04*
Dawson, Kansas City	305	163	53.4*	2262	21*	14	4.6	7.42
Namath, New York	340	164	48.2	2220	18	15	4.4	6.53
Kemp, Buffalo	391	179	45.8	2368	10	18	4.6	6.06
Blanda, Houston	442*	186*	42.1	2542	20	30	6.8	5.75
Parilli, Boston	426	173	40.6	2597	18	26	6.1	6.10
Flores, Oakland	269	122	45.3	1593	14	11	4.1	5.92
Wood, Oakland	157	69	43.9	1003	8	6*	3.6*	6.43
Slaughter, Denver	147	75	51.0	864	6	12	8.2	5.88
McCormick, Denver	253	103	40.7	1292	7	14	5.5	5.11

Standings are based on per cent of completions, touchdown passes, per cent of interceptions and average yards gained. To qualify for championship rating, a player must throw at least 140 passes.

PASS RECEIVING

	Recs	Yards	TDs	Longest	Avg
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	Recs	Yards	TDs	Longest	Avg
Taylor, Denver	85*	1131	6	63	13.3
Alworth, San Diego	69	1602*	14*	85	23.2*
Maynard, New York	68	1218	14*	56	17.9
Burrell, Houston	55	650	4	52	11.8
Powell, Oakland	52	800	12	66	15.4
Burford, Kansas City	47	575	6	57	12.2
Roberson, Oak-Buff	46	703	3	74	15.3
Hennigan, Houston	41	578	4	53	14.1

INTERCEPTIONS

	Ints	Yards	TDs	Longest	Avg
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	Ints	Yards	TDs	Longest	Avg
Hicks, Houston	9*	156*	0	31	17.3
Whitehead, San Diego	7	127	1	35	18.1
Paulson, New York	7	72	0	22	10.3
Clarke, Buffalo	7	60	0	40	8.6
Norton, Houston	7	52	0	18	7.4
Gonsoulin, Denver	6	91	0	32	15.2
Williamson, Kansas City	6	89	0	51	14.8
West, New York	6	57	0	28	9.5

PUNTING

	Punts	Yards	Longest	Avg
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	Punts	Yards	Longest	Avg
Wilson, Kansas City	68	3132	64	46.1*
Johnson, New York	72	3260	73	45.3
Norton, Houston	84*	3711*	65	44.2
Maguire, Buffalo	80	3437	68	43.0
Scarpitto, Denver	67	2833	74*	42.3
Yewcic, Boston	74	3094	70	41.8
Mercer, Oakland	75	3079	70	41.1
Hadl, San Diego	38	1544	65	40.7

PUNT RETURNS

	Rets	Yards	TDs	Longest	Avg
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	Rets	Yards	TDs	Longest	Avg
Duncan, San Diego	30	464*	2*	66	15.5*
Mitchell, Kansas City	19	242	1	71*	12.7
Gibson, Oakland	31*	357	1	58	11.8
Byrd, Buffalo	22	220	0	30	10.0
Barry, Denver	21	210	0	38	10.0
Haynes, Denver	14	121	1	57	8.6
Baird, New York	14	88	0	23	6.3
Burton, Boston	15	61	0	12	4.1
Jackson, Kansas City	13	163	0	41	12.5
Rutkowski, Buffalo	11	127	0	33	11.5

*1965 AFL leader

Comparisons of the Canadian Football League with its two lusty American cousins are inevitable—and invariably lopsided, if spectator totals and the juicy plum of television revenues are the only factors appraised. By any such gauge, the Canadian loop must run a poor third to the NFL and the AFL. Yet, the lure of the Canadian game is undeniable—and proof aplenty exists in the swelling ranks of talented Americans, players and coaches alike, who have flocked north ever since the league was organized in 1948. Many an American collegiate star turned his back on tempting offers from the NFL or AFL to follow the pied-piper call of "Come North, Young Man." With an eye toward quelling what might have amounted to a Yankee invasion, Canadian League officials instituted a restrictive clause, which holds the number of American players per team to 14—out of a total team complement of 32. Thus some 43 per cent of the players are transplanted Americans.

PRO BALL— NORTH OF THE BORDER

BY BARRIE WILLIAMS
The Hamilton Spectator

*The lure of the Canadian game is
undeniable—judging by its U.S. imports*

The 1965 Grey Cup contest, held in Toronto, brought together the East's Hamilton Tiger-Cats and the West's Winnipeg Blue Bombers. Here, Hamilton quarterback Joe Zuger turns the corner behind teammates Bob Counts (32) and Chuck Walton (52)





NORTH OF THE BORDER / continued

How do these worthies, who either call the shots or take the weekly bruising, feel about Canadian football itself, and about the promise and prospects of life in Canada in general? One highly articulate member of the expatriate band is Hamilton Tiger-Cat coach Ralph Sazio, who has adopted Canada as his home. The veteran Sazio, starting his 17th year in the league, is the senior Yank in terms of service. After his playing days with Hamilton, he served as the club's assistant coach until stepping into the head post in 1963. "I really like Canadian football," says Ralph. "It offers quite a challenge, its rules are unique and there's so much opportunity to really become established in this great country."

The uninitiated American fan, suddenly plunked down in a Canadian football stadium, might find himself bug-eyed with bewilderment until he got the hang of his favorite game as it grabs 'em, up north. The playing field is a king-sized version of the stateside tundra: 10 yards longer, 12 yards wider—and with the end zone yawning 15 yards deeper. All of which add up to a goodly amount of extra romping room. There's none of the nose-to-nose lining up, as Americans know it; Canadian footballers square off one yard apart on offense and defense. A ball kicked into the end zone counts for a single point, unless run or kicked out.



One aspect of the game that particularly delights Canadians—and would leave an unrehearsed American dumbfounded—is the absence of the "fair catch." Up north, the punt return man is given what amounts to a five-yard "buffer" zone to latch onto the ball before he takes off. Would-be tacklers closing in on the receiver waiting for a kicked ball have to back off, keeping five yards between themselves and the return man, until he has caught the ball. Once he has it, however, he's on his own, since Canadian rules don't permit downfield blocking.

As for the rule changes that have raised all the ruckus, there's no denying that this pair of revisions will substantially re-shape the game along U. S. lines. The first change permits *all* backfield men to block anywhere downfield. Before this change, only backs lined up outside the ends—backs who crossed the line of scrimmage *after* the ball was snapped and who maintained their positions outside the ends—were eligible to clear for the ball carrier.

The other change—sure to open up the game even further—allows all eligible receivers to block for the man who snares a forward pass. In the past, once the pass had been caught, the receiver's nearest teammates would almost literally turn themselves into statues, so as not to be called for interference.

Queried about the effects of the rules changes, Sazio minces no words. "I voted against the rule allowing backfielders to block. Our club has always been against changes like this because they are making the game too Americanized. If things go on like this, changing rules each year, the uniqueness of the Canadian game will be lost. I admit that the other rule, allowing all eligible receivers to block, will open up the a dull, grind-out type of ground game that will bore game, but the one involving backfielders could lead to the fans. I think the fans want to see the ball in the air more often."

At the other end of the scale, in terms of experience, is Nebraska-born Darrall Mudra, who gets his first taste of the Canadian game this year as the new head coach of the Montreal Alouettes. At the helm of North Dakota State for the last three years, he saw his clubs run up records of 3-5 his first year, 10-1 his second and 11 straight last season. The affable Mudra, well aware that his work is cut out for him, is faced with a brace of particularly thorny problems. To begin with, pro football is an altogether different breed of cat

Halfback Leo Lewis of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers hurdles a Hamilton defender en route to a touchdown during last November's Grey Cup game, opposite page top. And Ottawa's Jim Dillard picks up valuable yardage in a regular-season game against the Ti-Cats, bottom

than its collegiate counterpart—and, to boot, it generally takes Americans, especially head coaches, a couple of years before they are astute enough to take full advantage of Canadian rules and playing conditions. Secondly, Mudra is confronted by the paradox of a club that has done poorly despite the undeniable fact that, as an Eastern team, it has the advantage of heavier grosses from higher attendances. The resultant monies should have enabled the club to purchase the necessary talent, but this has not been the case.

Looking forward to his first year in Canadian ball, Mudra says, "I'll coach from the spotter's box, not the sidelines. I find that the high vantage point helps me. We'll try to build up our offensive line; we have good receivers and a couple of heavy backs, but we're still looking for that special runner."

Perhaps a typical spokesman for many of the American players who heeded "the call of the North" is John Barrow, captain of the Hamilton Tiger-Cats. Starting his 10th year of Canadian ball, Barrow has garnered a glittering share of acclaim since his All-America days at the University of Florida. He holds an Eastern Conference record of being named to All Star teams nine times; he was Canada's outstanding lineman in 1962, was a runner-up for this title last year and has consistently been a nominee for it. John could easily have been in the NFL today—in fact, he nearly went to the Detroit Lions four years ago, when his option with the Hamilton club was up. (The Lions, incidentally, had first tried to tap Barrow after he came out of college.) As the big fellow recalls it: "Detroit had made me a very good offer and I was certainly interested in playing in the NFL—I think most Americans are. But I began to think of what I would do when my playing days were over and, in this regard, the opportunities the Canadian game offered made me decide to remain in Hamilton." Barrow, who now makes his home in Canada and has become a Canadian citizen, is half-owner of a bowling alley, heads a sales promotion and premium company, and is currently a management trainee with Carling Breweries. He is another performer who has taken full advantage of one of the Canadian game's prime selling points—*evening practice*—which allows players to hold down full-time day jobs during the season.

No roster of American notables who have thrived as transplants in the Canadian football climate would be complete, without mention of such men as:

- Tom Brown, the Vancouver Lions' middle linebacker extraordinary. This former Minnesota All-America collected a bag-full of college awards from the Associated Press, United Press International, *Look*, the Football Writers' and Football Coaches' Associa-



Montreal Alouettes' quarterback Bernie Faloney is an ex-University of Maryland All-America who emigrated to Canada. He's been a star in the CFL for a decade now

NORTH OF THE BORDER / continued

tions, and was Heisman Trophy runner-up to Navy's Joe Bellino. His Canadian career has had a corresponding amount of notoriety—including the 1963 and 1964 distinctions of "Outstanding Canadian Lineman."

• Bud Grant, starting his 10th season as coach of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers—which have run up over 110 league, playoff and Grey Cup wins under his tutelage. Grant, who was "Athlete of the Half Century" at Minnesota, set a one-game record (since eclipsed) of 186 yards gained catching passes while a member of the 1951 Philadelphia Eagles.

• Kenny Ploen, Winnipeg quarterback, was an 18th draft choice of the Cleveland Browns after his days at Iowa. He chose, however, to finish out a school term and come to Canada for future security. Speaking of that decision, Kenny says, "I also figured I'd end up playing defense if I ever made it in the NFL . . ."

• Dave Skrien, Neill Armstrong, Eagle Keys and Frank Clair are among the Americans who've done handsomely for themselves at the respective helms of the Vancouver Lions, Edmonton Eskimos, Saskatchewan Roughriders and Ottawa Rough Riders. The list is a long and impressive one and, if it weren't for the previously mentioned restrictive clause, the ranks of Canadian pro footballers would boast considerably more than the current 43 per cent of Yanks with a zest for the Land of the Maple Leaf.

For Canadian fans, the annual Grey Cup con-

test is a frenzied, high-spirited whoop-de-do that combines American bowl game fever with the excitement of the NFL and AFL championships—and adds the holiday-and-hurrah spirit of the World Series. In short, it makes a myth of the contention that the average Canadian—like his British cousin—is a restrained, conservative and unemotional creature.

Interest in the game is so intense that fans regularly make bookings a year ahead for Toronto or Vancouver, the alternating sites of the contest. Special planes, trains, chartered buses and good hotels are usually sold out months ahead—and the game itself, with the exception of last year, has been pretty much of an early sellout since play first started in '48.

The Grey Cup, a much-battered piece of silverware first donated as a rugby trophy in 1909 by Canada's then-Governor General Earl Grey, originally cost \$48. Now it is insured for over \$100,000 and, collectively, the nine league teams have spent millions in their yearly battles for it.

The history of cup competition is studded with colorful tales of all-out attempts by the respective Eastern and Western Conference playoff champs to nail down the trophy. Perhaps the most amazing story has to do with a spectacular "first" that even the NFL and AFL can't yet lay claim to—the only two-day football game in history! This accidental double-header took place back in 1962, when the Hamilton Tiger-Cats, representing the Eastern Conference, met the West's Winnipeg Blue Bombers, in Toronto.

All during the week preceding the game, swirling fog, reminiscent of those infamous English "pea-soupers," had virtually cut Toronto off from the rest of the world. Planes were grounded; trains, hours late, moved cautiously through the haze, and driving was restricted to a foolhardy few.

On Saturday, the day of the game, the sun finally pierced the fog and winds off nearby Lake Ontario further cleared the murk, to the extent that then-Commissioner G. Sydney Halter decided the contest would go on at one o'clock. Unfortunately, it wasn't long before the pesky fog rolled in again, worse than ever. Coaches on the sidelines couldn't see the players; spotters in the press box, high atop the grandstand, were useless. The American Broadcasting Company, televising the game, switched from its high cameras to one at ground level, with the result that television fans actually saw more of the action than those in the stands. Finally, after consulting with Commissioner Halter, referee Paul Dojack called a halt to the game with Winnipeg leading, 28-27. After a hectic round of discussions with officials of both teams, it was decided that

the remaining nine minutes and 29 seconds of the game would be played the following day.

Sunday broke gloriously, with bright sun and warm temperature. Eager fans, with or without tickets, besieged the stadium to see the climax of this two-day cliff-hanger. The Blue Bombers picked up where they had left off 24 hours previously, at second down and 10 yards to go on Hamilton's 54-yard line . . . and, nine minutes and 29 seconds later, the game ended as it had the previous day—with Winnipeg the winner by the very same 28-27 score!

How does the Canadian League shape up on the edge of the 1966 season? What are the trends, which clubs are the "powerhouses," which teams have more or less consistently finished in the money? For Americans particularly, there is much that is significant in the often-voiced complaint—made especially by fans in the West—that "the Eastern Conference plays dull football." Of the four clubs that make up this conference, Hamilton and Ottawa have consistently been the winning entries. In fact, the Hamilton Tiger-Cats, on the basis of past performance, have to be rated the most successful team in Canadian football.

The remaining two teams in the East—the Toronto Argonauts and Montreal Alouettes—present a peculiar paradox, in terms of their dismal records in recent years. As the teams located in the largest and wealthiest Canadian cities, they should have been able to translate the potential of high attendance into the dollars that would buy the kind of players who produce winning teams—but it just hasn't worked out that way. Toronto, which seems to have a death-grip on the Eastern Conference cellar, hasn't even been involved in Grey Cup play since 1952. The club has had six head coaches since then and starts the '66 season with tough, controversial Bob Shaw, who has been at the helm since last year. Shaw practically ran an airlift of American imports last year, but the club finished at the bottom of the barrel, nonetheless. This past off-season, he concentrated on getting proven performers, via trades with other league clubs. Montreal, facing the coming season under the aegis of Darrall Mudra, brand new to Canadian ball and the pro ranks, is at best a doubtful prospect for '66 Grey Cup honors.

In the Western Conference, there is lots of room for argument and speculation when it comes to picking a winner. The Vancouver Lions, last team admitted to the loop, in 1954, made a poor showing in 1965, after garnering the Grey Cup in '64. But if they get up off those now-dusty laurels, they'll be a serious force to reckon with. Although the Calgary Stampeders haven't made a return appearance in Grey Cup competition



Ottawa signal caller Russ Jackson is belted by a burly Toronto Argonaut lineman, but still manages to complete a pass. He holds the key to '66 Rough Rider title hopes

since 1948, they are always an exciting—if puzzling—outfit as they consistently enjoy fine seasons, until they invariably lose the big one that would have meant a Cup berth. This could very well be their year—if they can sustain themselves for the big, final push. Winnipeg's Blue Bombers are probably the club to reckon with in the West. It's tough to quarrel with success, and the type of hard-hitting, heads-up ball the Bombers play puts the stamp of Grey Cup potential on them from the word "go."

The Edmonton team, which has been lagging in the Western basement, was the glamor club of the league during the 1950's. The Eskimos played in five Grey Cup contests from 1952 to 1960—and carried off the Cup in '54, '55 and '56. Both Edmonton and the Saskatchewan Roughriders are a pair of puzzlers, and crystal-gazing is particularly difficult where they are involved. The latter club has long been compared with the NFL's Green Bay Packers, because of the smallness of the Roughriders' stadium in Regina and the fanatical support that the entire community gives the team. Holding \$100-a-plate dinners each year has been one of the club's financial mainstays, although it now receives a split of the Western Conference gates and this has helped put it in the black.

Whatever the outcome of what is sure to be a turbulent season, there's one prediction that's guaranteed to come true. There'll be further Grey Cup fever this year in Vancouver, complete with all the hijinks, hoopla and excitement of past years—and then some. □

1966 CONTINENTAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE SCHEDULE

FIRST WEEK Thursday, August 18 Norfolk at Toronto Saturday, August 20 Brooklyn at Charleston Orlando at Montreal Philadelphia at Hartford Sunday, August 21 Richmond at Wheeling	SECOND WEEK Friday, August 26 Hartford at Toronto Saturday, August 27 Montreal at Philadelphia Orlando at Brooklyn Richmond at Norfolk Wheeling at Charleston	THIRD WEEK Saturday, September 3 Toronto at Orlando Charleston at Philadelphia Brooklyn at Hartford Sunday, September 4 Norfolk at Wheeling Monday, September 5 Richmond at Montreal*	FOURTH WEEK Friday, September 9 Philadelphia at Toronto Wheeling at Orlando Saturday, September 10 Montreal at Brooklyn Charleston at Richmond Sunday, September 11 Hartford at Norfolk
FIFTH WEEK Friday, September 16 Montreal at Toronto Saturday, September 17 Norfolk at Philadelphia Richmond at Hartford Orlando at Charleston Sunday, September 18 Brooklyn at Wheeling	SIXTH WEEK Saturday, September 24 Hartford at Montreal Toronto at Norfolk Orlando at Richmond Philadelphia at Brooklyn Sunday, September 25 Charleston at Wheeling	SEVENTH WEEK Thursday, September 29 Toronto at Richmond Saturday, October 1 Wheeling at Philadelphia Norfolk at Hartford Brooklyn at Orlando Montreal at Charleston	EIGHTH WEEK Saturday, October 8 Charleston at Toronto Norfolk at Brooklyn Montreal at Orlando Philadelphia at Richmond Sunday, October 9 Hartford at Wheeling
NINTH WEEK Saturday, October 15 Richmond at Charleston Brooklyn at Toronto Hartford at Philadelphia Wheeling at Montreal Orlando at Norfolk	TENTH WEEK Friday, October 21 Toronto at Montreal Saturday, October 22 Richmond at Brooklyn Wheeling at Hartford Philadelphia at Norfolk Charleston at Orlando	ELEVENTH WEEK Saturday, October 29 Montreal at Richmond Brooklyn at Philadelphia Charleston at Norfolk Toronto at Hartford Sunday, October 30 Orlando at Wheeling	TWELFTH WEEK Saturday, November 5 Wheeling at Toronto Hartford at Brooklyn Richmond at Orlando Philadelphia at Charleston Sunday, November 6 Norfolk at Montreal*
	THIRTEENTH WEEK Saturday, November 12 Toronto at Philadelphia Orlando at Hartford Wheeling at Richmond Sunday, November 13 Charleston at Montreal* Brooklyn at Norfolk	FOURTEENTH WEEK Saturday, November 19 Toronto at Brooklyn Philadelphia at Orlando Hartford at Charleston Sunday, November 20 Montreal at Wheeling Thursday, November 24 (Thanksgiving Day) Norfolk at Richmond*	

*Day game (all others played at night)

1966 AFL SCHEDULE

FIRST WEEK

Friday, September 2
Oakland at Miami*

Saturday, September 3
Denver at Houston*

Sunday, September 4
Buffalo at San Diego

SECOND WEEK

Friday, September 9
New York at Miami*

Saturday, September 10
Oakland at Houston*

Boston at San Diego*

Sunday, September 11
Kansas City at Buffalo

THIRD WEEK

Sunday, September 18
Kansas City at Oakland

Boston at Denver

Miami at Buffalo

Houston at New York

FOURTH WEEK

Sunday, September 25
San Diego at Oakland

New York at Denver

Houston at Buffalo

Kansas City at Boston

FIFTH WEEK

Sunday, October 2
Miami at San Diego

Houston at Denver

Buffalo at Kansas City

New York at Boston

SIXTH WEEK

Saturday, October 8
Denver at Kansas City*

Boston at Buffalo*

San Diego at New York*

Sunday, October 9
Miami at Oakland

SEVENTH WEEK

Sunday, October 16
Oakland at Kansas City

New York at Houston

San Diego at Buffalo

Denver at Miami

EIGHTH WEEK

Sunday, October 23
Kansas City at Denver

Miami at Houston

Oakland at New York

San Diego at Boston

NINTH WEEK

Sunday, October 30
Denver at San Diego

Houston at Kansas City

Buffalo at New York

Oakland at Boston

TENTH WEEK

Sunday, November 6
Houston at Oakland

San Diego at Kansas City

Denver at Boston

Buffalo at Miami

ELEVENTH WEEK

Sunday, November 13
Oakland at San Diego

Miami at Kansas City

Houston at Boston

New York at Buffalo

TWELFTH WEEK

Sunday, November 20
Oakland at Denver

Boston at Kansas City

Buffalo at Houston

Miami at New York

THIRTEENTH WEEK

Thursday, November 24 (Thanksgiving Day)
Buffalo at Oakland

Sunday, November 27
San Diego at Denver

Kansas City at New York

Boston at Miami

FOURTEENTH WEEK

Saturday, December 3
New York at Oakland

Sunday, December 4
Miami at Denver

San Diego at Houston

Buffalo at Boston

FIFTEENTH WEEK

Sunday, December 11
New York at San Diego

Denver at Oakland

Boston at Houston

Kansas City at Miami

SIXTEENTH WEEK

Saturday, December 17
Boston at New York

Sunday, December 18
Kansas City at San Diego

Denver at Buffalo

Houston at Miami

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Sunday, December 25, at home of Eastern Division champion

*Night game

